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BIBLE MONITOR

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JANUARY 1, 1979

NO.1

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

LIVING SERMONS

There isn't a word that a preacher can say,
No matter how lovely or true,
Nor is there a prayer that his eager lips pray
That can preach such a sermon as you.
You vowed to serve Christ, as men know that you did —
They're watching the things that you do;
There isn't any action of yours that is hid —
Men are watching and studying you.
You say you're "no preacher"; yes, but you preach
A wonderful sermon each day.
The acts of your life are the things that you teach —
It isn't the things that you say.
If Christians were Christians, as they profess,
Men would notice their glorified mien;
And say, "What wondrous things they possess
Who follow the meek Nazarene."
Christians, remember you bear His dear Name,
Your lives are for others to view;
You are living examples — men praise you or blame,
And measure your Christ by you.

— Selected by Sister Bertha Dorsey

OPTIMISM AND PESSIMISM

As the old year slips away into the new year, our minds are drawn two ways. At the beginning of the New Year we review the year just finished, noting its successes and its failures. We also look ahead wondering what the new year will hold for us. At this season, we contemplate what we have done that would please God and help our fellowman and also what we have done that has failed to measure up to God's standard, this past year. By thinking of our past actions, we may resolve to do better during the new year.

This season is rather two-sided for us. This thought of looking both backward and forward is contained in the name of our first month, January. The name is derived from a Roman god who was two faced. One face was looking to the future, the other backward to the past.

Looking backward to remind ourselves of our past mistakes so we can improve in the future is profitable. Merely looking backward in erstwhile sentimentality will not be profitable. Looking forward to a future to be lived according to God's will with a resolve strengthened by desire to avoid the past shortcomings is likewise profitable. To merely look ahead in wishful daydreaming will not bring it to pass.

If we allow ourselves to unduly dwell upon the mistakes and failures of the past we can become very pessimistic about our lives or conditions about us. On the other hand if we allow ourselves to be caught up in unfounded dreams of the future we may become so optimistic that we disregard the realities around us.

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Optimism and pessimism often influence ministers' sermons and writers' articles. When one surveys the history, character and deeds of mankind it is easy to see the ruined nature of man. It is hard to be optimistic about mankind when it is remembered that Adam and Eve were placed in a garden of perfection but soon exchanged it for the empty promises of Satan. Their descendants have continued to demonstrate the fallen nature ever since. Murder, rape, robbery, pride, disobedience, destructiveness and many other traits show the true condition of mankind. A look at his past hardly inspires any confidence in the future that man can carve out for himself. His only ability lies in making his bombs bigger, his actions more reprehensible and his life more distant from God.

Perhaps we wonder why ministers spend so much time preaching against the devices and sins of men. The reason lies in the nature of man. Man has fallen far from the image he was created in, but he still likes to be commended and approved. If he is commended for sinful activities, he will become strengthened in them. If he does not repent of the activity he will be found guilty before God. So the necessity is great that men be warned of their transgressions of God's Word, so they will not lose their souls.

It would be a welcome thing to ministers if they did not need to preach what is sometimes called a "negative" Gospel. But they must if they would be true to their duty and for the welfare of mankind. Even Christians must be warned of the dangers of the devices and schemes that the Devil has devised to delude them. It would be pleasant to speak only of the love of God but His terrible Justice must be proclaimed as well.

After surveying the past and present condition of man, one can only be very pessimistic about his future. In the darkness of man's moral condition there is but one glimmer of optimism. That hope is the Lord Jesus Christ. Man has utterly failed to lift himself up through education, force or religion. In fact he has gone backward. Jesus remains the only hope for any individual.

Sin has a price — death. This is even worse than the separation caused by natural death, it is an eternal separation from God and all that is good. The penalty for men's sins was borne by Jesus as He hung upon the cross. He died that men might have life — not just physical life but everlasting, Spiritual life. That ray of optimism is there for all to accept but it must be accepted individually. Although mankind is sliding deeper into sin and slipping farther away from God, an individual has the opportunity of escaping from the pessimistic condition around him.

Although man may boast of his deeds and his intelligence, his record is one that leads only to pessimism. Do not feel critical

when ministers speak of the fallen nature of man or of the devices of Satan used to deceive even Christians. They are only warning you so you might realize your condition so you can look to the one haven of optimism — Jesus Christ. Accept Him now. What better way is there to begin the New Year?

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE RULER WHO DIDN'T KNOW

JOHN 3:1-10

Nicodemus was a ruler of the Jews. There were many things that he knew. He probably could have said from memory most of the Old Testament. Because he was a Pharisee he had studied and could tell much about the history of his people. As a ruler he would know how to convince people and to judge them.

Nicodemus came to Jesus one night to talk with Him. I suppose he didn't want any of the other Pharisees to see him with Jesus. He had seen Jesus do miracles and said unto Him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles that you do, except God be with him."

It would seem Nicodemus knew a great deal but there was one thing that he didn't know. Jesus replied, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." I'm sure Nicodemus wanted to go to Heaven. He knew he had been born into this world just like you and me and everybody. How could a person be born again? What was Jesus talking about anyway? Can an old man be a baby again? Impossible!

Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Jesus was talking about something entirely different from our natural body. He was teaching Nicodemus about a new life which one must have to get to Heaven.

Jesus said, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." The body is going to die but to live with God in His kingdom, you need something more; you need to obey God by being baptized or born of the water, then God has promised to give you a new spiritual life. Peter told the people, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Jesus told Nicodemus that you couldn't see the wind or tell where it was going or where it came from. Everyone that is born of the Spirit is like this. It's something that can't be seen with our

eyes. When the wind blows we can see the trees bend and the dust blow and we can hear the sound of it. We know that the wind is there, even if we can't see it. So it is with everyone who is born again. You can't see the new life, but you can tell when a person is a Christian by the things he does. When we have the Spirit of God in our lives, we will act differently.

Nicodemus said to Jesus, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered, "Are you a master of Israel and don't know these things?" Nicodemus knew many things, but the most important thing — that of being born again and becoming a new creature — he knew nothing about.

Jesus said, "Ye MUST be born again." How could we expect to live if we had never had a natural birth? How can we expect to live with God and be like Jesus and live another life if we are not born again — of the water and of the Spirit?

Brother Rudy Cover

A YEAR OF LIBERTY

"And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof; it shall be a jubile unto you." Lev. 25:10a.

"At the end of every seven years thou shalt make a release." Deut. 15:1.

Every seventh year and every fiftieth year were special years for the Jews. They were years of rest for the land, in which no sowing or reaping was done. Whatever grew was to be food for the poor. They were years of liberation and special blessings, when servants were set free, the poor had plenty of food, debts were cancelled and property was restored to those who had inherited it. Anyone sold to another was free to leave the fiftieth year, if someone hadn't redeemed him before that. No doubt those in need especially looked forward to these times, when they would have a chance to start over. (Read Lev. 25 and Deut. 15.)

God provided times of rest, release and liberty under the Law which especially aided those least able to help themselves. If He had not made such provisions, many of those people would have remained in bondage until death. He provided a plan of redemption to meet their natural needs. He also provided a plan of redemption to meet their spiritual needs and ours. It is effective even in the lives of those least able to help themselves, those under the greatest bondage of sin. It gives rest and liberty, both, now and eternally, to those who accept this plan.

Under the Law, a person could remain in bondage if he chose to.

You can remain in bondage to sin if you so choose, but even as the servant gave up all his rights to freedom, you give up all your rights — to freedom from sin, to peace of mind and heart and to eternal life. God has not proclaimed some certain year as the “year of liberty or release,” but He has proclaimed, “Now is the day of salvation.” Until you accept this salvation, you’re in bondage, but you don’t have to wait several years to be free, for “now is the accepted time.”

If the idea of a good start for the new year is a party to pass away the time for a few hours, maybe a few meaningless resolutions, and then forget the whole thing, you won’t go far. Jesus came to this earth to “... preach good tidings unto the meek ...to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives ...to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord...” (Isa. 61:1-3.) He wants to give you what you need, to make your life meaningful and worthwhile. Without Him, your new year won’t be worth much.

When New Year’s Eve comes, there is a lot of merrymaking, much of it of a questionable nature. Unfortunately, there is very little genuine rejoicing. When the new year begins, it gives us a chance to make a new start, to renew our hope for something better. There is a lot to rejoice over — if you have Christ. With Him, everything will be better. Whatever goals you have for the year with Christ in your heart, you can work toward these goals knowing that you will have joy and peace regardless of the outcome. Your happiness will not be dependent on your circumstances, because you will be happy in Christ.

If you want 1979 to be a year of genuine liberty and release for you, you must start it out with Christ in your heart. When He has charge of your life, He will direct it for your own good, yet at the same time He will give you freedom such as you’ve never known before. You will be free from the power and bondage of sin; there will be peace in your heart because you know your sins are forgiven. True liberty is not being able to do as you please, but it is to do as God pleases. The trap of sin keeps you from pleasing Him, but when He sets you free, you will be free indeed! Let this new year be a year of liberty for you — the liberty that only Christ can give.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

A NEW YEAR

We are now starting on a New Year. To some this will be just another year but to those who are followers of the meek and lowly Jesus it will mean a lot more than just another year. We will try by

God's help to make a better year, as each of us goes forward doing all we can to help build a better world and help win the lost to Christ.

Each of us can see that we are in a troublesome world. But we, as dear ones in Christ's vineyard, will try to help those who need help. Let each of us show to the world we are a group of His dear children trying to help those who are lost to see a better way, so they too can enjoy the blessings Jesus has in store for His dear ones here below.

The dear ones who have to be away from Church services, because they can't drive in evenings or when the weather is bad, would love to come, but don't want to be a burden. If we truly love each Brother and Sister as we should, I am sure there will be a way provided, and they won't have to feel that they are a burden. We, who are able, should be willing to go the second mile to help someone. How would you feel if you had to call someone each time you wanted to go to church? I feel you would rather stay home then feel you are a burden to someone.

When I visited a number of our Churches in the East, I was impressed with the love the dear members showed to their elderly members. They would call different ones of the elderly to see if they had a way to services. They said this was their Christian duty. Oh, in these churches you could feel that great love for each other. There were none who felt they were better than the other. Many of the elderly people are able to enjoy the fellowship together. I think this is Christ's way. One elderly sister told me, "Every time we have services our dear ones make a special effort that none of us should be absent. I often tell them what a blessing they are. Never do we feel we are a burden because they love to go out and do this Christian duty." I was there during a Revival and I noticed every car was full when it was driven into the Church grounds. One dear Brother told me, "Some of these days we too will be in the same place, I hope I will have the same thing happen to me, that is why I try so hard to see that these can be present at all services." I was told by a number of elderly ones how happy they were that the dear ones made such a sacrifice to see that others were able to attend.

Do we feel, when we get a phone call, "My, what a burden they are to us."? Is this brotherly love? Let us stop this year and think about it. If those who could would go and bring people who can not come, don't you feel the Lord would bless you for helping them? What would you do if you were sure this was your last day or year to live? We should live each day as if it was our last day. I do think each of us would live it a little differently. Now, as we have

entered into this, another year, we should all make a check on our lives and see if we can't do something to improve it. Once I was in a Brethren home. On the Lord's Day I was permitted to attend their services. I was impressed with how they took care of a family that had sickness in their home. They took turns preparing a full meal and taking it each Sunday, so they could see how much they were missed and loved.

Today there are so many away from Christ. Some of our dear ones have left and gone back into the world. Let us each pray daily during this year that they will see what a great blessing they are missing and come back into the fold and serve the One, who died that all could have a Home Above. May the Lord richly bless each of you this coming year.

Sister E. M. Alltus

**** 1979 ****

A New Year! There will be special days: Birthdays, Easter, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Days that the children say, "I can hardly wait for..." But in between are the ordinary days. There are the work days, the Sunday-Go-To-Meeting days, sad days, glad days and the days when things go wrong. They must each be lived through, one day at a time.

How wise our Heavenly Father was to give us our days one at a time, with a time of rest between each one to "recharge our batteries," so that with renewed energy we can face a new day.

We need to start our day with Prayer. Jesus prepared Himself for the day, often rising a long time before it was light, communing with God, His Father. He taught His disciples to pray daily.

"Give us this day our daily bread." Matt. 6:11. God fed the children - Children of Israel - with manna, daily for forty years. Ex. 17:35.

David says much in the Psalms about daily prayer. "Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily." Ps. 86:3. Ps. 61:8, "So will I sing praise unto the name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows." The little song says,

Whisper a prayer in the morning, Whisper a prayer at noon,
Whisper a prayer in the evening, To keep your heart in tune.
God answers prayer in the morning, God answers prayer at
noon,

God answers prayer in the evening, So keep your heart in
tune.

Jesus lived his thirty-three years, one day at a time. They were not all quiet days by the Sea of Galilee or resting at Bethany at the

home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus. There were stormy days and lonely days and days of suffering. But Jesus knew the secret. You must meet God in the morning if you want Him through the day. He lived one day at a time.

Saviour, teach me, day by day, Love's sweet lessons to obey.

Sweeter lessons cannot be, Loving Him who first loved me.

Daily Bible reading and daily prayer make daily disciples. No man can know Jesus Christ truly, except he follow Him daily.

New Year's resolutions are soon broken, but each day begun with prayer builds another link in a golden chain that makes it easier to begin the next day with prayer. Then we grow in grace and the further knowledge of God's Will in our lives.

Day by day and with each passing moment

Strength I find to meet my trials here.

Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,

I've no cause for worry or for fear.

He, whose heart is kind beyond all measure

Gives unto each day what He deems best,

Lovingly, it's part of pain and pleasure,

Mingling toil with peace and rest.

Every day the Lord himself is near me

With a special mercy for each hour;

All my cares He fain would bear and cheer me,

He whose name is Councilor and Power.

The protection of His child and treasure

Is a charge that on Himself He laid;

"As thy days, thy strength shall be in measure."

This the pledge to me He made.

Help me then in every tribulation,

So to trust thy promises O, Lord,

That I lose not faith's sweet consolation,

Offered me within Thy Holy Word.

Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,

Ever to take as from a father's hand,

One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,

Till I reach that promised land.

One day I have not mentioned, but it could be that Very Day when Jesus comes. O, Glorious Day! "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh." Matt. 25:13.

Sister Edyth Kline

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DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from December 15, 1978 Issue

We continue our study of this Dispensation of conscience to Gen. 6:5-8, "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth." And He did. "Both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord."

God spake to Noah, Gen. 6:12-23, "And God looked upon the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth." And God did. So, the first "age" of this world and the second Dispensation ended, with a great "deluge," the flood, in which only Noah and seven souls remained alive on the earth. Note their means of escape: God in His mercy provided a way of escape for Noah and his household, and all men who would come into the "ark," which God had Noah to prepare and to build. But not a soul came in, save Noah and those with him, although Noah preached to them and warned them, many days.

Please note: an "age" in Scripture is from one great "cataclysmic," or "climatic" change to another, in the earth's surface, or condition. At the time of the flood, there were great "cataclysmic" or "climatic" changes. Please note the following: Gen. 7:11-12, "In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights." And also verses 19-24 of the same chapter, "And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered. And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man: All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died. And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.

And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days."

This was a renovation of the earth not a destruction. The world only (the people and all vegetation) was destroyed. But the earth being renovated remained, yet an upheaval and decay was the result. The word rendered "renovation" means "To make over, to make new, after decay." The earth was made to bring forth again, and to produce, and was reinhabited after the "flood." Hence, a renovation. Peter tells us, II Pet. 3:3-6, "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God (in Gen. 7) the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water, and in the water: Whereby the world that then was (in Noah's day), being overflowed with water, perished." Here was a great "cataclysmic" and "climatic" change. It was a "renovation" of the earth.

The Bible tells us of another such, great "cataclysmic" and "climatic" change, at the end of this present and second "age" of the world, at "Armageddon." Space forbids, here to relate this, however, we hope to give our readers a full account of that time, before we close this work. Yes, we believe there will be one more "renovation" of this present earth, before its final destruction, when the "earth and the heavens shall flee away," Rev. 20:11; II Pet. 3:10. The final end of the "day of the Lord" (as one thousand years) will not be a "renovation," but a total destruction, as we understand.

In conclusion of this second Dispensation, let us study the possible length of human history, as revealed in the Bible. The genealogical tables and history of the Old Testament, seem to show that from Adam to Christ was about four thousand years. In breaking this figure down, we should consider, that the "two ages" of this present world, the "Antediluvian age" and the present "age" cover six dispensations, or approximately six thousand years. From Eden to Noah possibly covered approximately one thousand years, also from Noah to Abraham one thousand years. From Abraham to Solomon, one thousand years, and from Solomon to Christ, one thousand years. Then we know that, there have been over nineteen hundred years of this world's history, since Christ; therefore we are living in the sixth one thousand year period of the world, if these figures be correct, since the Creation.

From Christ to the "Dark Ages" to the "revelation" of Christ on the earth, will be one thousand years, making six thousand years.

Then the Millennium will be one thousand years. However, no man knows the day nor the hour of Christ's coming; therefore no man knows when the six thousand years of mortal life will end, nor when the one thousand years of immortality will begin, when Christ takes over His Throne.

The third Dispensation of the world, will occupy our attention in our next article.

Brother William Root

THE DESTRUCTIVE USE OF TOBACCO

I am thankful I was told in my boyhood days not to start the use of tobacco. Since we desire good health, why should we use tobacco to destroy it? I have heard some people say that they can not stop using it. I also know of some people who quit the habit, who say they feel better.

Tobacco has been successfully used to destroy insects which destroy vegetables and flower plants. Medical experts, through tests, have proven many times that it has been very harmful to people who use it. Such ills as brain damage, lung cancer and heart trouble as well as small children suffering ill health because of their cigarette-smoking-mothers are part of its harmful effect. Because of its part in health destruction, our law makers have compelled the manufacturers of cigarettes to put a label on the package saying they are dangerous to the health.

It is my opinion that its use should be outlawed the same as marijuana. Why should anyone desire to use things that are so destructive? We should cleanse ourselves from the filthiness of the flesh and all superfluity. We are not tempted above that which we are able to bear. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." I Cor. 3:16-17. I believe we can cleanse ourselves from all unrighteousness with the help of the Lord. Touch not, taste not, handle not the unclean thing.

Many years ago it was decided at our Church Conference that the use of tobacco shall be stopped by all of our members. Our Elders should work with patience to get it accomplished. Some may say it is alright to use it since God created it. He also created poison ivy and many other poisonous plants.

We are to abstain from all appearance of evil and to let our light so shine before man that they may see our good works and glorify our Father in Heaven. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." May we truthfully ask the

Lord to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. "Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, ...for if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body ye shall live." Rom. 8:12-13. Which is your choice — eternal life or destruction.

Brother J. F. Marks
R. 9, Box 860,
Plant City, Florida 33566

MARRIAGE

SMOOTZ - SHAFFER

Sister Joyce A. Smootz, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Russell B. Smootz, Box 130, New Creek, West Virginia and Bro. Myron D. Shaffer, son of Elder and Sis. Frank D. Shaffer, R. 4, Box 275, Greencastle, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage September 23, 1978 at the Edgar T. Biggs, Jr. residence, near the Smootz' home. The ceremony was performed by Elder Frank D. Shaffer. The couple will reside at Rt. 4, Box 275, Greencastle, Pennsylvania 17225.

OBITUARY

FANNIE R. HEARN

Sister Fannie R. Hearn was born July 18, 1914, in Blair County, Pennsylvania and departed this life at her R. 1, Mohrsville, Pennsylvania home on November 6, 1978, at the age of sixty four years, three months, eighteen days. She was a daughter of the late Bro. Samuel and Sis. Amanda (Koontz) Wisler.

In addition to her husband Elwood, she is survived by two sons, Robert M., Reading; Fred S., Mohrsville; and four daughters, Faye E., wife of Woodrow Ankerbrand, Greencastle; Wanda L.; Mable F.; and Wilma L. at home; and eleven grandchildren.

Sister Hearn was baptized into the Church of the Brethren at the age of fourteen. She united with the Dunkard Brethren, April 23, 1933. She was a faithful member of the Waynesboro Dunkard Brethren Church for twenty-five years and for the last nine years a member of the Bethel Dunkard Brethren Church.

Funeral services were held Friday, November 10, 1978 at the Bethel Dunkard Brethren Church by Elder James Kegerreis and Bro. David Kegerreis with interment in the adjoining cemetery.

She leaves a vacant place in the Church and home but not in the hearts of those who knew and loved her. Her memory will linger on forever and her life is an example for others.

She is sadly missed by her family, relatives, friends and neighbors.

WHAT IS A MOTHER?

A mother is someone who knows all our needs,
Our hopes and our dreams and desires,
With a genuine interest in all that we do —
Someone who guides and inspires.

The heart of a mother is full of compassion,
Is generous, kind, and forgiving,
The smile of a mother is loving and tender,
And adds so much gladness to living.

A mother is someone with infinite patience
Who soothes all our troubles away,
Someone with limitless faith in her children,
And love for them day after day.

A mother can make a "home" out of a "house"
By just being thoughtful and sweet,
By her warm understanding and gentleness, too,
That makes life more rich and complete.

A mother is full of true wisdom and strength
Of loveliness, insight, and grace,
She's someone whose love we will cherish forever —
Yes — no one can take "mother's" place!

The family wishes to thank everyone for remembering us during our deep sorrow of the death of our beloved mother. Your thoughtfulness, cards, prayers, and help was deeply appreciated. Continue to remember us in your prayers. May God richly bless each and everyone of you.

The Hearn family

NEWS ITEMS

WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND

In September we were again privileged to enjoy another one week revival meeting with Elder Dean St. John as our evangelist. We were blessed and renewed in our faith as we listened to God's Word night after night. We pray that it will bring forth a bountiful harvest in days to come. We were thankful Sister St. John could also be with us during these revival efforts. We wish to thank all members from other congregations and friends who so faithfully supported these meetings.

We enjoyed another Lovefeast this Fall, which was the first Sunday in October. We appreciated all the visiting ministers and invite them back again. Those present throughout the day were:

James Kegerreis, Frank Shaffer, Carl Broadwater and Eldon Mallow, who officiated at the Lovefeast and Communion Service in the evening.

Sister Betty Shelly, Cor.

SOUTH FULTON, ILLINOIS

Although everyone does not get to attend each council, we have continued to have one twice a year with Elder George Replogle as our presiding elder. Sister Bula Stambaugh resigned as church treasurer after thirty-nine years of serving, Sister Alice Reed is now our church treasurer.

We held church services this summer into November and were very happy to have ministers from our district visit in the homes and have services with us. Brother and Sister Fred Pifer from Dallas Center, Iowa came one week-end with a group from there including Brother and Sister Paul Byfield from California. Brother and Sister Rudy Cover, also from California, surprised us with a pleasant stop over. We are so grateful for the prayers in our behalf and interest everyone has shown.

May we all be alerted to wolves in sheep's clothing. They are not just single but in groups to deceive us. It is heart breaking to hear parents and grandparents plant the seed of deception in the minds of small children. May we never have to answer for such, but be wise to the deception around us. May we strive to keep closer to the Bible teachings in spite of the evil around us.

Sister Martha I. Harman, Cor.

FORTUNATE MISFORTUNES

Years ago a blind man came to our meetinghouse to conduct a singing class. He was an expert in music and knew how to teach it. His books were made for the blind. By passing his fingers over the raised lines he could read readily. He needed no light to read by. The first evening the lamps in the meetinghouse gave very poor light, so much so that most people could not see to read. The blind teacher did not know the difference. He called out the number of the hymn and proceeded to sing. As the people could not see well but few of them helped to sing. A preacher in the congregation then rose and remarked that the blind man was more fortunate than most people, for he could read whether there was any light or not. Everybody smiled. The blind man said he never thought of it in that way before. Possibly more of us might take that view of our misfortunes.

Selected from our Saturday Night

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BIBLE MONITOR

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VOL. LVII

JANUARY 15, 1979

NO. 2

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

ONE THERE IS ABOVE ALL OTHERS

One there is above all others
Well deserves the name of friend;
His is love beyond a brother's,
Costly, free, and knows no end.
Which of all our friends, to save us,
Could or would have shed his blood?
But this Savior died to have us
Reconciled in him to God.

When he loved on earth abased,
Friend of sinners was his name;
Now above all glory raised,
He rejoices in the same.
O! for grace our hearts to soften!
Teach us, Lord, at length to love;
We alas! forget too often
What a Friend we have above.

— John Newton

IF

One of the shortest words in the English language is "if". Despite its shortness, it is a word that has wrecked many hopes, dreams and lives. Although it is used in several different ways, it usually presents a negative view or a view contrary to reality. Often "if" becomes a mask to hide behind when one cannot face the reality of his sins and failures.

"If" is often used as a word of anticipation. We have said or heard it said, "If so-and-so happens, then I will do such and such." In other words, one is immobilized awaiting either a certain turn of events or action on the part of another. "If" used this way often shows one living in a dream world. He is awaiting a certain opportunity before he will act, in the meanwhile he accomplishes nothing. How many opportunities are forever lost because a man never perceives the condition that would activate him? How often are these future events actually a mask to cover an inability or unwillingness to carry out a present deed? Rather than hide behind "if", consider what God's Will is for the present and the future.

"If" is often used as a word of regret. How often do we hear "If only" ? The subject may be anything, financial, social or Spiritual. We look back at the past with a vision far superior to our present view, which often produces within us a feeling of regret. In material affairs we may have missed an opportunity to amass wealth. We have many regrets as we look at our past Spiritual life. But we have to realize that we cannot change the past, however much that past may hurt and discourage us. All the good we are able to do will not fully live down the past. We are not on a set of balances — trying to

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balance our past deeds with holier deeds in the present. The past is valuable to us if we can look back, see our sins and failures and learn from them. We cannot spend our time simply bemoaning the past, but must repent of it and build anew after God's pattern.

"If" is often used as a word of excuse. In the season of confusion, it is often expressed as, "If I have sinned, forgive me." While the motive may be pure, the language gives the impression that the one speaking hardly considers it possible that such a thing could be in his life. The word "if" serves as a denial of sin. This denial is a "slap in the face" to God. After all, He gave His Dearest Gift to save men from their sins. Certainly God recognizes the presence of sin in all men's lives. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." What is needed in such a life is not only greater precision in speech, but even more importantly, to have a true feeling of repentance. It cannot be pleasing to God for us to excuse ourselves from sin when He has already paid such a High Price because of it.

"If" is often used as a word of criticism. How often are we prone to boast that if we were in another's place we would do so much better. By this attitude, we are assuming that we can fill another's place. We can never know nor understand all the circumstances and feelings that surround the one we would wish to displace. If we were surrounded by all the situations they are, we perhaps could not do as well as they do. This form of criticism may be more subtle than if we criticize them openly but it is no less damaging. This does not mean that we must condone wrong-doing but we must be careful that we criticize not for criticism's sake. It is easier to talk about how another might improve himself, whether materially or Spiritually, than it is for us to live their lives under their circumstances.

"If" is often used as a word of doubt. It is often expressed that "If something were so, then conditions would be different." Very often this doubt is expressed concerning God or the Bible. These questions and the doubts are endless, for Satan is busy in the minds of men. No where are there more doubts expressed than concerning the Second Coming of Jesus and the Judgment of the world. "... where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." With statements like this, men express themselves as doubters of the promises and the judgments of God. To doubt God will bring them only under greater condemnation.

Man is often unconcerned about God's part in his life. He makes his plans to suit himself. Here is one place where he should learn to use the word "if". "For that we ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live and do this or that." Often "if" expresses a negative attitude or an attitude out of touch with reality but here it expresses our dependence upon God and His Will for us.

Let us be careful in our use of "if", that it might express only our dependence upon Him.

ANYONE CAN CRITICIZE

Anyone can criticize, but not everyone can love. To genuinely love, we must have Christ in our hearts. To criticize, we don't need anything other than what we already have — ourselves. We may downgrade others, thinking that it lifts us up, but it doesn't work that way. It only reveals how little we are. The scribes and Pharisees did an excellent job of criticizing Jesus — He called them hypocrites!

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Matt. 22:37. We must love God first and foremost before we can really love anyone else. After this commandment comes the second one, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." We should love others enough to want them to go to Heaven and to know all the joys we have in Christ. Criticism is not the way to get people to Jesus and Heaven; it only drives them away.

Criticism can be constructive, but so often it's nothing more than mere fault finding. Everyone of us has faults and to focus all our attention on them in ourselves or others is wrong. That which gets the most attention tends to increase. Therefore, if you want to bring out the good in someone, focus attention on that good. If any criticism is necessary, give it only because you love that person and really want to help him or her grow in the Lord. Don't criticize just because someone's life doesn't suit you.

It is not up to you and me to correct everyone we see. God alone can see how each one should be handled and He will take care of each matter in the right way. When we get the idea that God needs our help, that we simply must say something to straighten out Bro. So-and-so, we only hinder the work of God in his life. God does use people to teach and admonish others, but He knows best how and when it should be done, and we should be guided accordingly.

If we could see clearly and had the wisdom to judge righteously, God would not have reserved judgment for Himself. He knows that it is so much easier for us to see the faults of others than it is to see our own, so He gave us a warning: "For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." Matt. 7:2. Whatever you hand out will come back, so it would be wise to extend mercy instead of criticism. You may need mercy yourself someday.

The Pharisees thought they didn't need Jesus, they certainly didn't want Him, and they didn't like it when anyone else wanted Him either. They asked the disciples, "Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?" Jesus spent time with those who really needed and wanted Him. If He hadn't done so, it is likely that the Pharisees would then have accused Christ of being a snob. No

matter what He did, they found fault with Him, but Jesus didn't allow their criticism to hinder Him.

Jesus was asked, "Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?" Jesus answered, "Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?" The Pharisees were more concerned about their traditions than they were about pleasing God. Which is more important to you — God's commandments or your traditions? Just because you've always done something a certain way doesn't mean you've pleased God in it. Neither does it give you a right to criticize others who do not follow your pattern. Remember always — Christ is our pattern, not people.

There is a saying that faults are thick where love is thin. The Pharisees didn't love Jesus so they picked and found fault, even though Jesus is perfect. The first commandment is to love God supremely; the second is "love your neighbor as much as you love yourself." If God's people don't love, who will? Certainly the unbeliever will not. In John 15:12, Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you." Without this deep abiding love, we will only be faultfinders just as the Pharisees were.

Criticism is almost always negative — it says what someone should not do. Being critical, finding fault, and so forth creates strife, friction and unnecessary stress. Love is positive and active, busy doing what pleases God. Love is pleasant and kind, not easily provoked; love seeks what's best for others. Jesus said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35. Anyone can criticize, but to love and really care, we need Christ. Without Him, we are nothing. Love should be the moving force in every Christian's life. Is it in yours?

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554



Slow me down Lord, I'm going
too fast,
I can't see my brother when
he's going past;
I miss a lot of good things
day by day,
I can't see a blessing when
it comes my way.

THOUGHTS FOR 1979

1. Follow the Golden Rule. Read Matt. 7:12.
2. Follow the Vow the Apostle Paul took. Read Romans 8:38-39.
3. Have the same mind in you as was also in Christ Jesus. Phil. 2:5.
4. Feed upon the Word of God and grow by drinking of that Spiritual Water. John 4.
5. Weigh yourself daily in the balance of God.
6. Look into God's mirror daily and see how He sees you.
7. Allow the Word of God to have full sway in your life.
8. Present your body a living sacrifice. Romans 12:1.
9. Walk humbly with thy God.
10. Follow others as far as they follow Christ.
11. Govern your life by the whole Gospel of Christ.
12. Condemn not your Brother or Sister unless you can do better.
13. Have that forgiving Spirit, Jesus had and manifested throughout His Life.
14. Above all make good use of your time.
15. Mold and fashion your life after the Life of our Blessed Master. Your footprints then may aid some wayward soul in turning and giving his life to Christ.

Sister E. M. Alltus

FAITH THAT REALLY WORKS

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1.

What is faith, and how do we demonstrate it? Faith is not magic, something like a wand that we can wave to turn pumpkins into coaches and mice into horses; yet, this is so often the way we expect God to work for us. Faith is basing our trust on something God has said. We must follow up that certain word with the whole context of Scripture from which it is taken. He said, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19. For example, along with that verse, Jesus said, "...Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?" Matthew 6:25.

If we take only these two portions of Scripture and sit down in our rocking chair and wait for God to feed and clothe us, we may starve to death. Why? Because God did not keep His Word? Or was it that we did not understand what He was trying to teach us?

Let us balance the scale by reading His words concerning Adam even before the fall. "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it." Genesis 2:15. Here we see that God intended for Adam to work. The difference before the fall and afterward was that his work became harder and less fulfilling. He had thorns and thistles to contend with, and the Lord said, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." Genesis 3:19. It seems that God did not even plan for his retirement. Then in the New Testament, He gives His thoughts concerning this in I Timothy 5:8, "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."

Obviously this is speaking of an able-bodied person who does not provide for his family. Here again we can become entangled in Satan's trap. Suppose you are disabled and you read this verse alone. You would become very depressed and maybe suicidal. Do you see how important it is to get the whole picture from God's point of view? It is Satan's trick to show us only one portion of Scripture and have us base our whole philosophy upon it. This is not blind faith, instead it is ignorance. Satan gave Jesus only a portion of Scripture to stand upon when he suggested that He cast Himself off the pinnacle of the temple. But note that Jesus did not fall for his trickery. "And saith unto Him, if thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." But since God did not give Jesus faith to leap — "Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." Matthew 4:6-7. This is the reason for the admonition in II Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Another area in which we are so easily tempted is in the matter of food. We are told to be temperate in all things, and to let our "moderation be known to all men." Yet, there are just as many or more among Christians who are gluttonous, as there are among sinners. I know whereof I speak, because for years I "lived to eat." Then one day I really became serious with the Lord and asked Him to control my eating, for it was quite apparent that I was not doing a very good job. I might add here that if you do not really mean what you are asking for, do not ask for it, because chances are He will

take you at your word. Then one day I became ill. Afterward there were so many foods that I had to leave alone. Do you know which ones they were? They were the very ones that I had been unable to control my eating in and to this day I cannot handle them.

Did God give me this sickness, or was it a result of over-indulgence? God does not make us sick any more than He makes us sin. It comes about through a malfunction in our bodies. Sometimes it is because of bad eating habits, or because of unrest in spirit or even bitterness. Whatever the condition, it comes upon us as a natural course of events and most of the time we are not aware of it until we are overcome.

The normal reaction is to throw up our hands in despair and claim that God has forsaken us, because He has allowed us to become ill. This is definitely wrong. We should use it as a stepping stone to learn the power of Christ, not only in restoring our health but as to how we can stay healthy.

Suppose I had an ulcer and through prayer the Lord healed the ulcer, but my spirit was critical and my attitude judgmental. How long would it be before I would have another ulcer? Do you see the point I am striving to make? God wants to make us whole — Spirit and body. He actually is more concerned that our inward parts be perfect, rather than that we have optimum health and are able to eat everything and have a superabundance of strength. For then, very often, we become lifted up as were the Corinthians, who thought they had “arrived.” They considered themselves rich and full and reigning as kings, but God’s thoughts of them were not so. (I Cor. 4:8).

When we do come to a place of true riches and reigning in life, will we have anything to boast in? No! Paul says in the preceding verse — “For who maketh thee to differ from another? And what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?” We “. . . reign in life by One, Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:17.

There are some ways in which we learn to appropriate faith and then watch this faith energetically work in our behalf.

Brother C. L. Frost
Kansas City, Missouri



Do not be a victim of activity. When Satan can't make you bad, he makes you busy.

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

LIVING WATER

JOHN 4:4-42

Would you like to have Jesus come to your home and talk with you? Jesus and His disciples were traveling through Samaria. They came to a city called Sychar. Near this town was Jacob's well. Jesus was tired from walking, so he sat on the well to rest. His disciples continued on into the city to get food. As Jesus was resting, a woman came to the well to get water. Jacob's well was probably the only well near that city. They didn't have water in every home with plumbing like we do. People had to go to the well, let down a bucket or a pitcher on a rope and pull the water up out of the well and carry it home in a water pot. Jesus was thirsty and didn't have any rope or pitcher to get water from the well. Jesus said to the woman, "Give me to drink."

The Samaritan people and the Jews didn't get along very good. The Samaritan woman answered, "How is it that you, being a Jew, ask a drink of me who am a Samaritan?"

Jesus said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that said to you, 'Give me to drink,' you would have asked of him and he would have given you living water."

The woman said, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep, from where do you have that living water?"

Jesus said, "Whosoever drinks of this water shall thirst again but whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

Then the woman said, "I want this water, give me this living water so I won't get thirsty anymore or have to come here to draw water from this well."

Jesus knew this woman just like he knows everybody — even you and me. He said, "Go call your husband."

The woman said, "I have no husband."

Jesus said, "You have well said, I have no husband, for you have had five husbands and he whom you now have is not your husband."

This surprised the woman for she said, "I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship."

Jesus told her that Jerusalem was the place to worship because salvation was of the Jews but there was a time coming when true believers would worship God in spirit and in truth. The place would not be important.

The woman said, "I know that Messias is coming, which is called Christ; when He is come, He will tell us all things."

And Jesus said, "I that speak unto thee am He."

The woman then left her water pot and went into the city, and said to the men, "Come see a man that told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?"

And many of the men believed and came to Jesus and asked Him to stay with them. Jesus stayed there two days and talked to them about the living water.

Would you like Jesus to give you living water? It means that you can go to Heaven and live forever. You can have the Holy Spirit in your life, if you come to Jesus. Peter said, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." The Holy Spirit will lead you into all truth and bring to your remembrance all things that Jesus has said.

Brother Rudy Cover

SATURDAY OR SUNDAY?

No Sabbath law was known to the world for twenty-four hundred years after the Creation or until the time of Moses. Neither Adam, Abel, Methusalah, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph or any other Bible character ever kept a Sabbath Law until the time of Moses. No nation or kingdom except Israel (the Jews) ever kept the seventh day because they never were commanded to. The Catholics did not change the Sabbath. The Adventists claim the Sabbath was changed by Constantine, who was not a Pope, but a pagan emperor who ruled two hundred and seventeen years before there was a Pope. Of course the Catholics would like the honor of changing it, but they never have given the Pope's name or the time or the place where it was done.

The fact of the matter is, the keeping of the first day of the week instead of the seventh was a gradual process in the Church at an early date. It was done by the Christians and began as early as the second century and that was before there was a Roman Catholic Church. The papacy was established 638 A.D. I Cor. 16:2 and Acts 20:7 gets Sunday keeping a long way ahead of the Roman Catholic Church and Constantine's Sunday law.

The Mosaic Law was only given to the Jewish people. God never commanded a Gentile to keep the Sabbath nor was any penalty imposed on them for not keeping it. In fact with the dispersion of the Jewish race it would have been impractical for them to try to keep it according to Lev. 24:8 or Num. 28:9-10. How about a Sabbath Day's journey of about three-fourths of a mile in present terms?

God rested on the seventh day. Man could if he liked, but there was no law to that effect, hence there was no violation where there was no law. (Deut. 4:13, 5:3.)

Moses knew there was no law given before his time. It was given through him to the Jewish nation. (Exodus 31:13). After the downfall of the Jewish nation, see what is said of her in Lam. 2:9. She had no law. The Jewish nation went down and the Law, including the Sabbath went with it.

Read Acts 15:1-6, 22, 24. The point at issue was circumcision and the Law. The Apostles gave them to understand these things could not be enforced on the Gentile Christians, for they were living in the age of Grace and were not under the Law. If God had intended the Law of Moses, which contained the Sabbath law, should be imposed on His people, the Apostles would have known it, but they say we have no such commandment. (Rom. 10:4).

The Sabbath Law was a law of sin and death. (Matt. 5:17-18). Jesus came to fulfill the Law, which He did and it passed away. The priesthood being changed made it necessary to change the Law. (Heb. 7:11-14; 21, 12:24). Read the allegory of Abraham's two sons. One representing the Old Covenant containing the Sabbath Law. The other, the New Covenant under the Age of Grace. (Gal. 4:22, 27, 30).

Neither Christ nor His Apostles kept the Sabbath after His Resurrection, only as a matter of necessity in order to preach to the Jews, who would assemble only on that day. For some time after His death, they preached only to the Jews.

Keeping the Law bars the merits of Christ. (Gal. 2:16, 21; 5:4; Rom. 3:20, 28; 4:14). Are we to follow Moses or Christ? The Bible settles that on the Mount of Transfiguration. (Matt. 17:5). There appeared Jesus, the mediator of the New Covenant, Moses, the mediator of the Old Covenant, and Elias, the representative of the prophets. A voice from Heaven (The Father) saying, referring to Jesus, "This is my beloved son, hear ye Him." See Acts 3:22.

Did Jesus ever give a seventh day Sabbath Law? It was often His busiest day. He paid no attention to the Sabbath except to defend Himself and others against the charges of breaking the Sabbath. Did the Early Church come together to break bread on Saturday or Sunday? (Acts 20:7; I Cor. 16:1-2; Rev. 1:10).

If the seventh day is the Christian Sabbath, then the gates of Hell prevailed against the Church from 100 A.D. to 1600 A.D. But Christ said it should not be.

By the late Elder Z. L. Bussear
Selected by Brother David Bussear

THE SECRET

There's a little word that changes
Darkest skies to brightest blue;
There's a little word that brings the
Sunlight bravely shining through.
Never mind the things about you;
Never mind if others frown - - -
Lift your face to God and praise Him!
And the blessings will come down!

Praise is mightier than any army
With its banners all unfurled;
Praise will win the victory sooner
Than all the powers of this world.
For the God who ruleth all things,
And the God who longs to bless
Waiteth only till He heareth thee
Thy love to Him confess.

Beg Him not for any blessing;
Tire Him not to spell thy need.
This He knoweth e'er thou speak it;
Stay Him not to beg and plead.
Lift thy face and sing it heav'nward,
From the deeps within thy soul;
Let His praises fill thy being,
Let the shout of rapture roll.

Ah! the rest will come quite easy - - -
E'er thou thinkest, 'twill be done,
Thou wilt know PRAISE is the answer,
Thou wilt find the vict'ry won.
Blessed, holy, wondrous Jesus,
Heav'n in Thee to me is come!

— Frances J. Roberts
Selected by Brother W. E. Bashor



If you will work FOR God, form a committee.
If you will work WITH God, form a prayer group.

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

PART 5

The Third Dispensation of the World. This is at the beginning of the second "age" of the world, known as the Post-Deluvian Dispensation, or the dispensation of human government. It covered approximately 427 years. After the receding of the waters of the flood, "And God spake unto Noah, saying, Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth. And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him: Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark." Gen. 8:15-19.

This was the beginning of the new Dispensation after the flood. "And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar." Is this not the beginning of sacrificial worship unto the Lord, upon an altar by man? "And the Lord smelled a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done. While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." Gen. 8:20-22.

The next destruction of this world, by fire, we believe according to Holy Writ, will be a destruction of the people, not a total destruction of all vegetation, as was the flood. As a remnant was saved in the ark, just so we believe there will be a remnant of God's people, Israel, saved at Armageddon, as symbolized by the one hundred forty-four thousand "sealed in their foreheads." Rev. 7:1-8; Rev. 14:1-6; Zech. 14:1-10; II Pet. 3:7-8. God will preserve nature (it is His Covenant with Noah and every living thing). Yet many disruptions will take place on the earth, in the days of the pouring out of the "seventh angel's vial" and at Armageddon, as shown by Christ in His Revelation to His Church.

In Noah's sacrifice, we see a perpetuation of the sacrifice of animals, a sacrifice of blood, such as the sacrifice of Abel, which had the respect of the Lord. God promised Noah that, "Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at

the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man. (God's law is still "Thou shalt not kill.") . . . And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein." Gen. 9:3-7.

God then gave His second covenant to man, which we will note later as we proceed. But first let us note the meaning of the word "covenant". The most common use of this word in the Bible is: For a covenant (an agreement, or promise) between God and His people. Note also, God's Covenant with man is made upon a condition of obedience to Him by man. We will try to point out these Covenants as we come to them. God's first covenant, as pointed out above, was with Adam, which was of "continued life and favor with God," on the condition of man's obedience. Gen. 2:16-17.

God's second covenant, which we are discussing here, was made to Noah and the living creatures, that there would be no more flood to destroy the earth. Gen. 9:8-17, "And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you (this covenant stands throughout all coming generations); And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. And it shall come to pass when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth."

— To be continued
Bro. William Root



I do not wait for the undertaker, but for the uptaker.

NEWS ITEMS

WINTERHAVEN, CALIFORNIA

The Lord willing, the Winterhaven Congregation will hold their Lovefeast, February 17, 1979. Services will be held Saturday morning, afternoon with the Lovefeast in the evening, followed by services throughout Sunday. A hearty welcome is extended to all.

Sister Emma Freed, Cor.

A NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to take this way of expressing my appreciation to all the Brethren and Sisters, who sent cards, prayers and gifts my way during my illness and subsequent treatments.

May God richly bless each one for his thoughtfulness.

Sister Marla St. John

APPRECIATION

With deep appreciation I want to express my sincere thanks to the Englewood Congregation for remembering me on my eighty-fourth birthday in my home. I have been confined since a fall some time back. To the good Sisters who brought dinner in and who ate with me and to the young people who came in the evening with refreshments and a scrapbook from the Englewood Congregation and to other Christian Friends, may God bless you all.

Sister Pearl Troutwine

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY

Feb. 4 — Woe Unto the Wicked. Isaiah 5:8-30

Feb. 11 — "Here Am I; Send Me." Isaiah 7:1-25

Feb. 18 — God's Assurance — A Sign From God. Isaiah 7:1-25

Feb. 25 — "Unto Us A Child is Born." Isaiah 9:1-7 (Isaiah 8:1-22)

QUESTIONS:

- (1) Why do God's people go into captivity? Isaiah 5:13.
- (2) What happened to Isaiah before he could be a messenger for God? Isaiah 6:7.
- (3) What was the sign from God that would identify the Messiah? Isaiah 7:14.
- (4) What were some of the titles that Isaiah prophesied of Jesus? Isaiah 9:6.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 1979

Memory Verse: Psa. 51:10

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Thur. 1—Gen. 1:1-31

Fri. 2—Gen. 2:1-25

Sat. 3—Gen. 6:1-22

Memory Verse: Ecc. 12:1

Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

Sun. 4—Deut. 4:1-24

Mon. 5—Deut. 4:25-49

Tues. 6—Psa. 51:1-19

Wed. 7—Psa. 102:1-28

Thur. 8—Psa. 104:1-35

Fri. 9—Psa. 148:1-14

Sat. 10—Ecc. 12:1-14

Memory Verse: Isa. 40:28

Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

Sun. 11—Isa. 4:1-6

Mon. 12—Isa. 40:1-31

Tues. 13—Isa. 41:1-29

Wed. 14—Isa. 42:1-25

Thur. 15—Isa. 43:1-28

Fri. 16—Isa. 45:1-25

Sat. 17—Isa. 48:1-22

Memory Verse: Isa. 43:1

But now saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

Sun. 18—Isa. 54:1-17

Mon. 19—Isa. 57:1-21

Tues. 20—Isa. 65:1-25

Wed. 21—Eze. 28:1-26

Thur. 22—Amos 4:1-13

Fri. 23—Mal. 2:1-17

Sat. 24—Mark 10:1-22

Memory Verse: Isa. 45:18

For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else.

Sun. 25—Mark 13:1-23

Mon. 26—Rom. 1:16-32

Tues. 27—Rom. 8:19-39

Wed. 28—I Cor. 11:1-16

Memory Verses: Isa. 65:17 & 18

For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice forever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

Mal. 2:10

Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

Lester Fisher
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(USPS 054-780)

BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 3

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THE GREAT PHYSICIAN

The great Physician now is near,
The sympathizing Jesus;
He speaks the drooping heart to cheer,
Oh, hear the voice of Jesus.
Your many sins are all forgiv'n,
Oh, hear the voice of Jesus;
Go on your way in peace to heav'n,
And wear a crown with Jesus.
All glory to the dying Lamb!
I now believe in Jesus;
I love the blessed Savior's name,
I love the name of Jesus.
His name dispels my guilt and fear,
No other name but Jesus;
Oh, how my soul delights to hear
The charming name of Jesus.
The children, too, both great and small,
Who love the name of Jesus,
May now accept the gracious call
To work and live for Jesus.

— William Hunter

THE GREAT PHYSICIAN

"They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick." Matt. 9:12b. Because of the cost, inconvenience and discomfort of going to the doctor, people are reluctant to go unless they are sick. The well do not seek the physician's help because they have no need of it.

Although God is interested in our physical well-being, His primary concern is our Spiritual well-being. The body is earthy and is destined to return to the dust from which Adam was first taken. The soul is everlasting. The soul abides in the body of man during his lifetime, but at death will find its eternal home, either in Heaven or Hell. God desires each person to live so his soul might afterwards enjoy Heaven.

The well body needs no doctor and the well (or supposedly well) soul seeks no Saviour. But people often are not as well inwardly as they think. Disease in its earliest stage may be within, but people do not realize it. Although they are supposedly well, they actually could use the services of a physician. Jesus when speaking of the need of a physician was speaking of everyone's need.

Jesus, unlike the Pharisees, did not stay aloft from the common people. He met with, preached to and ate with them, although they were despised by the self-righteous Pharisees. The publicans could enjoy the company of Jesus. They could feel His concern for them. They knew their own lives. They knew they had failed to live up to the Law of Moses. They knew they were despised by their religious leaders. They could find little consolation in that religion, but they could find love and compassion in Jesus. They

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recognized their condition and they recognized who their Great Physician was. They were not whole; they needed a physician; they found that need supplied by Jesus.

The Pharisees considered themselves to be whole. They did not need a physician. They considered themselves to be the heirs of Moses, not only did they study the Law, they actually established their own law, which was opposed to God's Way. Outwardly they were very careful to maintain an appearance of serving God but inwardly they were Spiritually dead. Their disease was less pronounced, but as deadly as the sins of the publicans. It was especially deadly because they did not recognize that they were Spiritually sick.

The self-righteousness of the Pharisees was a terrible affliction that prevented them from seeing their own true condition although they were experts at pointing out the faults of others. Although they saw no need for consulting a physician, Jesus, the Great Physician, had already diagnosed their true case. He knew their outward appearance was a shell that hid the grossest of passions and the darkest of sins.

The self-righteous Pharisees loved to make a show of their piety and generosity. They could time their daily activities so the hour of prayer would find them at a busy street corner. They could choose the coins that would make the loudest sound when dropped into the alms box. They could exhibit good works in a way that destroyed the good of those works.

Jesus spoke of their fastidiousness in tithing their spices but they had forgotten the weightier matters of the Law — judgment, mercy and faith. They were strict in keeping the outward formalities of the Law but these things had lost their Spiritual value for them. Their pious, public prayers had become a formality. The very ones who made these prayers drove widows out of their homes and refused help to the orphans. The Pharisees considered themselves to be whole but Jesus said they were not only sick but Spiritually dead. He called them whited sepulchers, full of dead men's bones. They were beautiful without but dead within. The Pharisees were not interested in serving God righteously nor in teaching others that way either. They would go to great lengths to proselyte a man, then would lead him to condemnation by their traditions which countermanded God's Word.

Today there are many descendants of these Pharisees, not only fleshly but also their Spiritual descendants. There are many teachers who have devised various ways to Heaven, which are contrary to God's Word. Whether these are the teachings of "faith only," "eternal security" or varied rituals and social programs, they are but the Pharisee's legacies.

Perhaps the greater number of the Pharisee's descendants are not affected by erroneous teachings as much as by self-righteousness. Many depend on an outward display that has no corresponding commitment in the heart. Many will speak of their own nearly perfect lives, excusing their own sins. Sin, to them, is something that only some other is guilty of.

Do you need a doctor? It is far better to recognize your need and to go to the Great Physician than to maintain a fiction of perfect Spiritual health and to be lost. Jesus is the Great Physician.

NOTICE CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS

Newlywed couples may receive a year's subscription free if a request is forwarded to the editor with their name and full address.

To those who anticipate moving - please report a change of address promptly to the editor to prevent the papers being mis-carried.

It will also be appreciated if those who send in subscriptions will give the complete addresses and indicate whether they are new or renewal subscriptions.

It will be of help to the editor if subscriptions are always sent in the same name.

Is your subscription renewed?

- Editor



SPURGEON AND THE BOOKWORM

C. H. Spurgeon on one occasion went into Scotland and stopped at a wayside inn. There he picked up an old wormeaten Bible.

He held it up between himself and the sun, and there was just one place that he could see the light clear through. One worm had begun at Genesis, and eaten right through to Revelation.

Mr. Spurgeon said, "Lord, make me a bookworm like that!"

Oh, that we all could just eat into the Bible a little section at a time! But if you study it word by word, you will be enriched. Word studies of the Bible are like picking up pearls and diamonds.

— A. C. Dixon

Selected by Sis. Mildred Skiles

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EDITORIAL POLICY

That it be the policy of the Bible Monitor to exclude controversial material and material opposing, questioning or reflecting on decisions or positions of the Church as determined by the General Conference or derogatory thereto. Also all other material not of proper standard or spiritual value for a church paper.

That supervision over the matter to be published in the Bible Monitor be exercised by the Publication Board.

PRINTED MATERIAL

The following Dunkard Brethren publications are available to anyone, from the Boards listed:

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The following tracts are free:

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What Shall I do with the Commandments of Jesus?
Daily Reminder
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SUGGESTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

We are submitting several suggestions as a help to contributors in preparing material for the Bible Monitor. These suggestions will also make the work easier for both the editor and the printer.

1. Become familiar with the Editorial Policy and do not use subjects or statements which conflict with this plan of the Bible Monitor.

2. Place your name and address at the close of the article. We deem it more appropriate to sign as Brother or Sister.

3. Do not make sentences too long. A number of short sentences are better than a long involved sentence which is difficult to punctuate, and in which the real meaning of the writer's thought may be lost.

4. It will be appreciated if you gather a particular thought or thoughts and their proving Scripture quotations, into paragraphs and set these apart from the rest of the article, by setting in the first line of each paragraph about the space of three letters.

5. Do not crowd your words or punctuation marks close together. Do not use slang or abbreviated words as - "thot" for thought, "2" for two, "&" for and, etc.

6. Write or typewrite on one side of the paper only. Double spacing of lines is much preferred. Do not make the lines the full width of the sheet, leave at least one inch margin on each side of the sheet.

7. Use direct quotations for the Scripture references, please copy the wording and the punctuation just as it appears in the King James Version of the Bible. Given thus: book, chapter and verse, "Jesus wept." John 11:35.

8. Frequent mistakes we find: beleave for believe; recieve for receive; judgement for judgment; ore for or; & for and.

9. In submitting selected material, give the name of the author and the publication in which it appeared, if known, and add "selected by" and your name.

10. To be certain that an item is in a certain issue, your Editor should have this item at least 30 days prior to the date of the issue.

11. The Publication Board has decided that News Items should contain material of general interest to the Brotherhood. Therefore items of only local interest should not be included in News Items, such as Local Sunday School officers, District meeting delegates, minor local church property improvements and items "In Memoriam."

12. Read these and then write.

FIXED COMMUNION DATES

Third Sat. March-Quinter, Kansas
First Sat. April-Dallas Center, Iowa
Fourth Sat. April-Pleasant Home, Calif.
Last Sat. April-Grandview, Missouri
Last Sun. April-Bethel, Pa.
First Sun. May-Waynesboro, Pa.
Third Sat. May-Dayton, Virginia
Third Sat. May-West Fulton, Ohio
Third Sun. May-Lititz, Pa.
Fourth Sun. May-Shrewsbury, Pa.
Sat before First Sun. Aug.-Broadwater Chapel, Maryland
Sat before Fourth Sun. Aug.-Shallow Falls, Maryland
Labor Day Weekend-South Fulton, Ill.
Last Sun. Sept.-Mountain Dale, Md.
First Sun. Oct.-Walnut Grove, Md.
Second Sun. Oct.-Waynesboro, Pa.
Third Sat. Oct.-Dayton, Virginia
Third Sun. Oct.-Lititz, Pa.
Fourth Sat. Oct.-Englewood, Ohio
Last Sun. Oct.-Bethel, Pa.
First Sun. Nov.-Shrewsbury, Pa.
Second Sat. Nov.-Pleasant Home, Cal

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GOSSIP, BOTH VERBAL AND BY MAIL

A. Elders, other officials and all others are admonished that being busybodies in other men's matters, is contrary to the Scriptures and it should not be indulged in, as it causes complaint and interference with the spiritual life and work of those concerned. This applies especially where there may be trouble in the church, both to local members and those elsewhere, talking and writing about such matters.

B. When advice is sought of an official in any church matter he (the official) should be exceedingly careful in giving advice, so as not to interfere in any way with proper care of difficulties, by officials whose business they are. Elders and all others should, in seeking advice, begin at home when at all possible and be careful to proceed regularly and in brotherly love.

C. In correspondence, care should be exercised not to make statements that may be construed as derogatory to any member. If such things are done, full responsibility must be understood as being assumed by the writer.

D. Caucusing, that is, the talking over and planning by groups, what to do or how to move in any particular matter is unprofitable, causative of distress and trouble and should not be indulged in by officials or any one else.

E. Talking or circulating of what was done in council, either to members who were not present or to outsiders, is irregular and unChristian and should not be indulged in.

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LOCATION OF CHURCH HOUSES

BETHEL, PA.

Frystown House, located in Frystown, in northwestern Berks County, one mile south of Route 78 and one mile west of Route 501.

Milbach House, located halfway between Kleinfeltersville and Newmans-town, in Lebanon County or halfway between Schafferstown and Womeisdorf, Pa.

BROADWATER CHAPEL, MD.

From Cumberland, Maryland travel west on National Freeway #48, 20 miles to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn left or south under freeway three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road 3.8 miles, left on Westernport Road 3.8 miles, right on Savage Road 3.9 miles to church on left.

From Morgantown, W. Va. area, travel east on National Freeway #48 to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn right three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road and follow above directions.

Traveling east or west on U.S. Route #50 take U.S. Route #220 north, take Maryland Route #135 at McCooles (just north of Keyser, W. Va.) seven miles to Bloomington, Maryland. Turn right on Savage River Road, 12½ miles to church on right.

CLEARVILLE, PA.

Wards Church, located 14 miles southwest of Everett, Pa. all improved roads. From Everett take Route 26 to Clearville, Pa. At Clearville straight ahead South, leaving Rt. 26, which turns right, one and one-half miles, then turn right at fork. Ward's Church is five miles on the left.

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

Dallas Center is located on Route 44, twenty-four miles northwest of Des Moines. Turn south off of Route 44 on to Percival Ave. (first street west of R.R. tracks); the church is located 3 blocks south on the southeast corner of Percival and Ash Streets.

DAYTON, VIRGINIA

Turn west from Interstate 81 at Harrisonburg exit No. 63. Go to second stop light, Route 42, turn left to Dayton, (3 miles) right on Route 257 two blocks.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Twelve miles north of Dayton, Rt. 440 and Rt. 48 cross at the center of Englewood. Church house is located on the right of Rt. 48, one block north of this junction.

GOSHEN, INDIANA

Located on Green Road, one block north of County No. 130. Take U.S. 33 or Indiana #15 to Goshen, turn west at Police booth. Four blocks beyond bridge, turn right on North Indiana Ave., one block turn left on W. Clinton St. One mile to Green Rd., right one block and church is located on east side of road.

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Church is located south of Grandview. Take the west access road of 71 Highway 1½ miles south to 139th St., turn west, go to the second street and south one block.

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

Coming from the South on Route 501, turn right at the fourth stoplight in Lititz, when coming from the North turn left at the first stoplight, which is East Lincoln St. Go to first crossroad, turn right, go to second crossroad, turn right to brick church on the right.

MECHANICSBURG, PA.

CUMBERLAND CO.

Located between Routes 15 and 11. The town is bisected by Route 114 into East and West, and by Route 641 into North and South. The church is located on West Keller St., or corner of Keller and Washington St., four blocks west of Market St. or Route 114. Leaving the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Carlisle interchange, Route 11 will lead east to Route 114. Leaving the Turnpike at Gettysburg interchange, Route 16 will lead west to Route 114.

McCLAVE, COLORADO

The Cloverleaf church is located one mile north of U.S. Highway #50, four miles west of McClave junction, or two

miles east of Hasty, Colo., on U.S. #50 and then north one mile.

MIDWAY, INDIANA

An old red brick school house on your right, as you travel southwest from Peru, just off U.S. Highway 31, three miles from the Courthouse, which is located near the center of Peru, Indiana.

MOUNTAINDALE, MD.

Seven miles north of Frederick, in the little town of Mountaindale, Md., from east go through town to west on road from Lewistown to Yellow Springs, two miles from Lewistown and three miles from Yellow Springs. If traveling U.S. 15, this road crosses No. 15, half mile west of Lewistown and six miles South of Thurmont.

PLEASANT HOME, CA.

Coming from the north on Rt. 99, to Ceres, go through underpass, turn right to stop sign on El Camino St., turn left on Park St. to 6th St., turn right one block to Roeding Ave., turn left and go 1½ miles to the Church on Roeding. Coming from the south, turn off highway on El Camino to stop sign, turn left on Park St. and follow above directions.

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

Located in Williams County, four miles west of West Unity, forty rods north of Route 20 alternate. Two miles east of junction of Ohio Route 15 and U.S. Route 20 alternate.

PLEVNA, INDIANA

Route 18 passes east and west through Converse. In Converse, turn south at stoplight and go three miles. Turn right on blacktop road and go five miles west to Plevna. Or go west of Converse on Route 18 for five miles, turn left and go three miles south. The Church is on west side of street near the square of Plevna.

NEWBERG, OREGON

Highway 99W enters Newberg in east-west direction. Those entering from the east on First St., go to third stop light, turn right on North Main. Go four blocks to the church at corner of N. Main and Franklin Sts. Entering from the west, turn left at first stop light onto N. Main and go four blocks to the corner of Main and Franklin Sts.

ORION, OHIO

Located in northeastern Ohio, on Orion Road, one fourth mile west of State Rt. 8 at a point six miles north of Canton or one and one-half miles north of North Canton and 17 miles south of Akron.

QUINTER, KANSAS

Located at the corner of Eighth Street and Main Street.

S. FULTON, ILLINOIS

Astoria, Ill., is located on Rt. 24, coming from east or west, turn south at the bank corner marked by the big clock. Two miles south and on the right at top of hill.

WAYNESBORO, PA.

Church is located in west side of town, on corner of Ridge and Third Streets. Turn south of Route 16 on Fairview Ave., go two blocks and turn left on Third Street, church house is one block.

SHREWSBURY, PA.

Fourteen miles south of York on Route 111, at the north end of the town of Shrewsbury.

SWALLOW FALLS, MD.

Traveling U.S. Rt. 50, turn north at Red house, half way between Clarksburg and Winchester, follow Rt. 219 to Oakland, there turn left on county road 20. The church is on Rt. 20, about nine miles north of Oakland. Traveling U.S. Rt. 40, turn south onto Rt. 219, at Keyser Ridge, follow Route 219 about four miles past Deep Great Lake, turn right on county road 20 at a store. The church is one and one-half miles Swallow Falls Park.

WALNUT GROVE, MD.

About midway between Frederick, Md. and Hanover, Pa. One-fourth mile east of Route 194, at an intersection three miles north of Taneytown, Md.

W. FULTON, OHIO

Near Wauseon, Ohio, located on U.S. Route 20 alternate, three and one-half miles west of junction of Ohio. Route 108 and U.S. Route 20 alternate.

WINTERHAVEN, CA.

Located in Cherry Valley. Go north of Beaumont on Beaumont Ave., go right on Brookside (marked with a Highland Springs sign) to Jonathan, left to Lincoln and right to the church.

MISSIONS

CLEARVILLE, PA. - In South Central Pennsylvania, about half-way between Everett on Route 30 and Piney Grove on Route 40. About six miles south of Clearville, Pa., along hard road a little east of Route 26. Services second, fourth and fifth Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

TORREON NAVAJO MISSION

Located southwest of Cuba, New Mexico, 23 miles. Turn on State High-

way 197 in Cuba. Follow Route 197 for 19 miles when you will take an unpaved road to the left. A mission sign marks this junction. Proceed 3 miles to the mission. Present personnel includes David and Mildred Skiles and family; Alvin and Mary Ellen Chupp and family; Sally Stauffer; Nedra Pike; Mary Lou Stauffer; Joyce Reed; Marvin Lorenz and Rick St. John. Visitors would be wise to notify mission in advance. Address, P.O. Box 188, Cuba, New Mexico 87013. Please contact for further information.

MARRIAGE

LILLY-JONES

Sis. Marie Lilly, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Eldon Lilly, Rt. 1, La Fontaine, Indiana and Bro. James Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Jones, Wabash, Indiana were united in marriage, December 16, 1978 at the Plevna Dunkard Brethren Church. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Robert Carpenter. The couple will reside at Rt. 1, LaFontaine, Indiana 46940.

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"THY SON LIVETH"

John 4:46-54

Have you ever been sick? Almost everyone has. Some times people get so sick that they die. Have you ever thought when you were sick, "Oh, if I could only be well again — right now!" It doesn't work that way; does it? Sometimes it takes a long time to get completely well.

One time when Jesus was here, He came to a town called Cana. This was the place where Jesus had turned the water into wine. There was a certain nobleman who lived at Capernaum. He had a son who was very sick and had a high fever. If something wasn't done for him soon, he would die. The boy's father was very concerned. When he heard that Jesus was in Cana, he went to see Him. I suppose he had tried all the remedies that the doctors of that day could give his son, but nothing seemed to help. The boy only kept getting worse and worse. It was nearly twenty miles from

Capernaum to Cana. When the nobleman saw Jesus he asked Him to come to Capernaum and heal his son. We do not know how he thought that Jesus could make a sick person well. Maybe he had been to the wedding in Cana and heard how Jesus turned the water into wine. A man who could do that, could do anything!

Jesus said to the nobleman, "Except ye see signs and wonders, you will not believe."

The nobleman said, "Sir, come down to Capernaum. My child is so sick he will die."

Do you think Jesus went to Capernaum to see the sick boy? No, He didn't! Jesus said to the man, "Go thy way; thy son liveth."

The man believed Jesus and started back home to Capernaum. As he came near, his servants met him and told him, "Thy son liveth."

Then the nobleman asked the servants when his son began to get well and they said unto him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him."

So the father knew that it was at the same hour that Jesus had said unto him, "Thy son liveth." And the nobleman believed in Jesus and all his family and all his servants.

I'm sure that father was a happy man when his little boy was well again. Jesus can do anything. He will even forgive your sins, if you will believe in Him. He can make you well again.

Brother Rudy Cover



It is an easy matter to be faithful when everything is favorable for being so.



Pride is one of the underlying causes of man's separation from God.



A vain garb is good evidence of a vain mind.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVII

FEBRUARY 15, 1979

NO. 4

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

HE MAKETH NO MISTAKE

My Father's ways may twist and turn,
My heart may throb and ache,
But in my soul I'm glad I know,
He maketh no mistake.

My cherished plans may go astray,
My hopes may fade away,
But still I'll trust my Lord to lead,
For He doth know the way.

Tho night be dark and it may seem,
That day will never break,
I'll pin my faith, my all in Him,
He maketh no mistake.

There's so much now I cannot see,
My eyesight far too dim,
But come what may, I'll simply trust
And leave it all to Him.

For by and by the mist will lift
And plain it all He'll make
Through all the way, tho dark to me,
He made not one mistake.

Selected by Sister Susanna B. Johns

A FITLY SPOKEN WORD

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."
Proverbs 25:11.

The wise man shows the value of a fitly spoken word in a rather unusual way. He wishes for us to visualize a very rich scene. The first thing brought to mind is the apples. The apples of nature are one of our most versatile and useful fruits. Apples come in many varieties. Each variety has its particular characteristic. Apples can be eaten raw or fixed in many different ways. Just as apples come in many varieties, so fitly spoken words also come in different forms and varieties.

The apples of Solomon's pictures are not the mere everyday apples of nature. They are apples of gold. Not only do we have a picture of usefulness but of beauty and richness at the same time. Gold is today, as it has been throughout history, the premier metal of the world. It is highly sought after and coveted. Not only is it valuable but it can be made into objects of beauty. Gold is very highly valued by men and a fitly spoken word by this association is shown to be valuable and beautiful by the wise man.

The picture is not yet complete enough for Solomon, who lived in the midst of splendor and plenty. These golden apples are framed by a rich, silver frame. The silver sets off the golden beauty of the apples. The silver used in this picture is pure. The impurities found naturally with silver have been refined away or they would distract from this perfect picture. Likewise a fitly spoken word is a pure word. No taint of sin, foolishness or jealousy could be in a word described so eloquently.

THE BIBLE MONITOR

FEBRUARY 15, 1979

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Throughout the Bible we have many warnings given concerning our speech. God knowing the frame of man warns about the destructive, unruliness of the tongue. Through James, God warns us of its destructive power. That power is greater than the strongest horse or largest ship. It is also pictured as a fire. Its deceitfulness is especially warned against. The warnings are harsh but necessary, for the tongue does speak many useless and often hurtful words that should have been left unspoken.

In contrast to these warnings about words, God through Solomon gives us here a picture of words that is pleasant and encouraging. Fitly spoken words are the opposite of those warned against in other passages. These words are beautiful and useful.

Just as apples come in many varieties so do these highly praised words. A word that is appropriate for the occasion is "fitly spoken", for it fits the situation. We do not expect levity or boisterousness at a funeral or during worship services, nor would we expect sorrow in times of happiness. The word that is appropriate during one season may fail in its mission during another season because it does not fit. To be considered apples of gold, words must be appropriate.

That fitly spoken word may take several forms as the occasion demands. It may not always be a gentle word or an appreciative word for there may be times when a word of instruction or rebuke would be the appropriate word. The one who is discouraged or burdened will certainly feel that a word of encouragement or gentleness is as an apple of gold. It fits the need of the hour. While at the time, the one who is rebuked or corrected may not feel so charitable toward that word of instruction or reproach, yet if he receives it as he should, it will prove to be as valuable as gold to him later on. A word of appreciation is viewed by the recipient as a very valuable thing for it brightens the day and lightens the load. This word of appreciation is so beautiful because it is from the heart. This is not flattery, for flattery is a falsehood. Falsehood is not apples of gold but like gold plated apples, which would cheapen the picture Solomon has drawn for us.

Fitly spoken words are words not merely thought but actually spoken or written to the one who needs them. A few words, spoken or written, when they fit the occasion are worth much more than many words contemplated but never committed to speech or paper. Spoken or written words become apples of gold. A word of encouragement, thanks or peace can be very valuable to the defeated, burdened, or discouraged. A word of rebuke may also be valuable to the wayward or unknowing.

Solomon pictures a fitly spoken word as a thing of value, purity and beauty, no matter of what variety. Do your words fit this description?

IS JESUS ENOUGH?

Is Jesus enough? Do we need anything or anyone besides Him? Can He provide for every need we have? "Of course, He's enough," you say. But how do you know that? Has He been sufficient in your life, or do you still think you need this or that plus Jesus? We know that Jesus is sufficient to save us, but where do we go from there? We have physical and emotional needs also. Is He able to supply these needs as well? Will He supply them, or must we make do on our own?

No matter how difficult it is nor how impossible it looks, God can make a way. He can provide when it looks hopeless. He can keep us safe when danger is present. "For with God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37) was a special assurance given to Mary preceding the birth of John the Baptist and of Christ, but it applies to every situation. God is able to supply every need in every circumstance. He is never limited as we are. Jesus likewise is not limited.

Does Jesus care about our other needs or is His concern strictly for our spiritual welfare? Jesus said, "...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10. He came to give us the best — the abundant life. This is the best He has to give in every way, not just enough to get by on. "That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man." Eph. 3:16. His first concern is our inner being, for when our soul's need is met, our other needs take on a different perspective, but that doesn't mean Jesus ignores them.

Many aspects of life affect us spiritually, at least indirectly. Our physical well-being affects us mentally; our mental well-being affects us spiritually and physically. Somehow, some way, our needs must be met if we are to function the way God wants us to. Therefore Christ is concerned about every need, and we have a promise that He will supply them. "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19.

Does this mean we will always get everything we need, as we see it? Paul was told, "My grace is sufficient for thee." II Cor. 12:9. He asked three times for his thorn in the flesh to be removed. His need was supplied but the thorn wasn't removed. Instead, he was given the grace to live with it. Our needs are not always supplied as we wish them to be either, even though we know God could do so. Why? Because God knows best, and at times it is best that He leave the thorn to remind us that we need Him, while at the same time He provides grace through Christ to live with it.

Jesus is enough for every need, every situation, every obstruction that Satan shoves into our paths. Paul wrote, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13. There is a key, though, to obtaining this help. It doesn't come to just anyone. "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." Eph. 3:20. We must have power — Christ's power — working in us in order that we can receive all that He wants to give. Without Christ, the things we can ask for or think of just won't come our way. With Christ, no matter what we think God can do for us, He is able to do that and more, too.

"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him." Heb. 7:25a. "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day." II Tim. 1:12b. No matter how bad you are, Jesus can save you if you will come to Him. When you have committed your life to Him, you can be sure that He is enough for every need, that He can keep that which you've committed to Him. If Jesus is enough for your soul's need, is He not enough for your other needs also?

"Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." I John 4:4b. Jesus is greater than Satan and is always able to help us. All we need to do is ask. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:16. Whatever situation you are facing, no matter how difficult, ask the Lord to provide and give you the victory in it. Approach your problem with a positive attitude — that there is a way over, under, around or through it — and the Lord will show you that way.

Jesus is able to keep us from falling, to present us faultless (Jude 24). God is able to bless us so we can abound in every good work (II Cor. 9:8). Jesus is able to turn even the most difficult situation into a blessing, so ask Him to. Likely you will be surprised at His ability but more important, you will have a heart filled with peace, knowing Jesus can handle every situation. All He asks is that we turn it over to Him and trust Him to do what's best. Jesus is truly enough. Is He enough for you?

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554



When it comes to helping others some people stop at nothing.

CHRISTIAN LOVE - DO YOU POSSESS IT?

A Christian is a follower of Christ. A follower of Christ is a believer of all of His teachings and is a doer of all His commandments. "Love," Webster would tell us, "means affection, strong liking, goodwill, benevolence, and charity."

I believe we know pretty well what all of these mean, but I want to make special note of what benevolence means, "disposition to do good; love of mankind." Here we find that the love of Christ is more than just heartfelt, or lipservice, but also it is living a life of doing good. We as Christians know what doing good means — hearing and reading God's Word and trying to live it out in our lives as best we can, which can only be done by the help of Christ. A Christian's love of mankind would mean this: a sincere concern for your own soul which automatically gives you a concern for the souls of the unsaved.

Let's see how the Scriptures bear this out. John 14:15, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." 21, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me..." 23, "...If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him..." II John 6, "... this is love, that we walk after his commandments..." I John 3:17-18, "... Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." Now, in order to have the love of Christ made manifest in our lives we are going to have to know what his commandments are, what the deeds are we are supposed to do, and to know what is truth.

First, we are going to have to believe II Tim. 3:16-17, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." After we believe this scripture, (which every child of God must believe) it becomes our obligation to read and study and to listen as the whole Word of God is preached, and then to live it out in our lives. If we have the love of Christ in our hearts, we will want to do this because we love Him and have a sincere desire to follow Him here below and then go to that Prepared Place for a prepared people.

Our deepest and main concern should be that each one of us, who professes to be Christian, possess this genuine love for Christ. If we do, we will not question for one minute that all the New Testament commandments are needful for this day and age. Heb. 13:8-9, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for

ever. Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace..." Mal. 3:6, "For I am the Lord I change not..." Eph. 4:4-5, "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism."

Now, maybe, one of the biggest questions of this day and age and, probably, the most confusing events going on right now, is what about the people who say they love Christ and are following Christ, and are doing many works in His name, but do not believe in the doctrines of the New Testament the way the Word states them. The answer is simply this. If they would really love Christ and if they would really be trying to follow Him, they would not make excuses or make exceptions for this day and age, but they would simply take His word at face value and by the help and grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they would try to live it out.

Let's see what the Word of God has to say about them. Matt. 24:4-5, "... Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many." 24, "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Mark 13:21-22, "And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or, lo, he is there; believe him not: For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect." Luke 11:35, "Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness." 52, "Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered." John 10:1, "... He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." Acts 20:29-30, "For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." Rom. 16:17-18, "Now I beseech you brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple." Matt. 15:8-9, "This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." James 1:26, "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain."

Here are some of the many other references I would encourage you to read and study and prayerfully consider. Acts 20:29-30; I Cor. 11:18; II Cor. 11:3-4, 13-15; Gal. 1:6-8; Eph. 4:14; I Tim. 4:1-7; I Tim. 6:3-5; 20-21; II Tim. 2:14-18; II Pet. 3:16; Gal. 5:22-26; I Tim. 2:9-15.

This is why I firmly believe that when we are approached with a new and strange doctrine or teaching, one that doesn't agree with New Testament Scriptures, whether it's from within the Church or from without, our first duty is to pray that the Holy Spirit might guide our thoughts. Then out of a heart of love, and concern for souls, we can explain the Scriptures very plainly to them, so there is no room for error.

If it is a Brother or Sister, you might be offended at their unbelief of the Scripture. Should their belief spread, it could remove the power of Christ from the Church. So you approach them in love and concern, carrying out the commandment we have in Matt. 18, which I and every other member of our Church promised to do.

By the same token, if you should see in my life a place where I do not believe or try to live out the Scripture, it is my desire and your duty for you to come to me and show me. Maybe I did not realize that Scripture was there. It probably would be the biggest favor, or the greatest act of love or concern, you could have done for me, especially, if it is possible that it could have kept me out of Heaven. Gal. 6:9-10, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Matt. 11:28-30, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

In Christian Love,
Brother Glenn Burkholder



"Keep thy heart with all diligence." Why? "For out of it are the issues of life." Prov. 4:23. Preventive care is important to the natural heart, and it is just as important to the spiritual heart. Spiritual life comes only through Jesus, out of whom is the Issue of Life. God knows our hearts and our strength. We need to exercise our hearts in God's will, to make us stronger in Him. Will you keep your heart?

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

THEY DIDN'T LIKE JESUS

LUKE 4:16-30

Jesus grew up in a little town called Nazareth. It was a town that didn't have a very good reputation. When Philip told Nathaniel about Jesus, Nathaniel said, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?"

When Jesus grew up He left Nazareth and preached to the people in other places. One time He came back to His home town and as His custom was He went to the synagogue on the sabbath day and stood up to read. The Jews had places to worship like our churches but they were called synagogues. Jesus read from the Book of Isaiah, which prophesied what Jesus would do when He came. It said that He would preach the gospel to the blind, free those who had been badly treated and preach the acceptable year of the Lord. Then Jesus said, "This day is this Scripture fulfilled."

Then those that heard Him said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"

Jesus said, "No prophet is accepted in his own country, but I tell you of a truth, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah but unto none of them was Elijah sent but to a widow of Sarepta, a city of Sidon. And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha but none were cleansed but Naaman, the Syrian."

Because Jesus made it plain to them that they were fortunate that He was sent to them, they were filled with wrath because they didn't believe that Jesus was their Messiah. They became so angry that they took Jesus out of the city to the top of a big hill that they might throw Him down and kill Him.

But the time for Jesus to die was not yet. He just passed through the crowd and went His way. I don't know whether Jesus made himself invisible or whether He just confused the people so they didn't know what to do.

Would you turn Jesus down if He came to see you? I hope you wouldn't because Jesus can bless you abundantly. He wants to help you but He will not compel you to believe in Him. Jesus died on the cross for you and me. Is it too much to ask you to live for Him?

Brother Rudy Cover

A DIFFERENT KIND OF PEOPLE

It is my conviction that the true Church is made up of a group of people who are separate from the world. In I Peter 2:9 we find listed some of these differences. I would like to look at each of these

separately and give some understanding of each, as led, hopefully, by the Holy Spirit.

"But ye are a chosen generation." In Isaiah 65:15 we read, "And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen: for the Lord God shall slay thee, and call his servants by another name:" It is my conviction that this verse is a prophecy of the Christian church. In John 15:16 we read, "Ye have not chosen me (Jesus), but I have chosen you..." What a humbling thought this should be to all of us. The God of Glory became a man and died on a cross for our sins, not because we deserved it or even because we desired forgiveness. God took the initiative because He so loved us. This does not, however, relieve us of the need of accepting or rejecting Jesus Christ. Joshua 24:15, "... choose you this day whom ye will serve..."

"A royal priesthood." Although God has ordained elders and pastors to lead the flock, all of us are priests according to Scripture. We must be careful we do not put too much of our faith in a man rather than Jesus Christ. Also while we are to give due respect to our leaders, we must be careful they do not become an object of worship. I believe leaders should also be careful they do not try to bring praise to themselves, but remember they are only a part of the royal priesthood, who have been privileged to be chosen as special servants of God. Hebrews 4:15, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." This royal priesthood does not need to go to a man for strength for themselves or others, but can go to the greatest source on Heaven or Earth, our High Priest, Jesus Christ.

"An holy nation." To some people it would seem America and Christianity are synonymous. While few, if any, are so asinine as to say no other nation has Christians, it is taught by many that "America is God's special nation." Now, I would be the first to say, "I thank God for the freedoms we enjoy in this great land and I have no time for those who would desecrate the flag or in other ways ridicule this country." But after saying this, I have to recognize that I am not truly a citizen of the United States (although the Bible teaches we must obey the laws of the land, where they do not conflict with the laws of God, and pay our taxes), but a part of this holy nation, Peter talks about. We are not in favor of a "one world government" by man (although this will take place according to Scripture), but we have to recognize a "one nation government ruled by God." This means, among other things, that true Christians cannot fight for any worldly government, for Christ, our King, has ordered otherwise. St. John 17:16, "They are not of the world, even as I (Jesus) am not of the world."

"A peculiar people." It seems to be natural to want to be like

everyone else, at least in some things. But to be Christian is to live a super-natural life, not by our own power but by the power of the Holy Spirit. But we must be willing to yield ourselves to His leading. Romans 6:16, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" The question should not be how close can we live to the world and still be Christians, but how obedient are we to the teachings of scripture. If we are different in dress and life style only to draw attention to ourselves it is indeed all in vain. But if we seek to follow scripture, God will indeed be glorified.

Peter ends this verse telling us why we should be a different people. "that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." We are to praise God with our lips, but even more so by our actions. The saying, "Your actions speak so loud I cannot hear a word you're saying" is all too true in too many of our lives. Although we must be careful we do not allow the world to dictate our personal convictions so we are more acceptable, we must be consistent in thought and deed.

Jesus Christ wants to be our Savior, for He has chosen us; our High Priest, for He has shed His blood that we might be a royal priesthood; our King, for He has risen from the grave to lead a holy nation; and our Lord, for He has called us to be a peculiar people.

James M. Hite
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THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD

It may be well for us to meditate upon the lives of the great men of God. We can see how they were protected in the fiery furnace and den of lions. Also we see the small man, David, who through the armour of the Lord, was victorious over the huge giant who was in an armour of steel. We see Samson, a man of great strength, and what happened to him when the Lord departed from him.

Today, our only hope of salvation, that God has given for us to escape eternal destruction, is through accepting all of the saving Gospel of Christ, which was brought down from Heaven. The Gospel of Christ is "... the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth..." We need to be alert, lest we be led astray in these perilous times. We need all of the saving Gospel of Christ, our map to Eternal Glory.

"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness." Eph. 6:11, 13-14. What a change it would be in the world today if all professing Christians would put on the whole armour of God. We need the armour of God, which is far above the manmade theories of the world.

The Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every one who believeth and is obedient to all of our roadmap to Eternal Glory. When we went down into the liquid stream, we promised to renounce Satan with all his pernicious ways and the sinful pleasures of this world. Are we living true to this promise? "Be not overcome by evil but overcome evil with good." We cannot have on the whole armour of God without accepting all of the saving Gospel of Christ. What a great change it would be today if all professing Christians would accept all of the saving Gospel. We need to stand. "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left." II Cor. 6:7. This armour of flesh by itself will fail us. Many are not standing against the wiles of the devil because they have not put on the whole armour of God. To those who accept the plan of salvation, old sinful things have passed away and all things have become new.

We have the record of many in the New Testament who had on the whole armour of God. They stood firm through the hardships along their pathways and labored earnestly for the cause of Christ and the upbuilding of God's kingdom here on Earth. Through the armour of God the Apostle Paul fought a good fight, kept the faith, and finished his course and looked forward to the great crown of righteousness.

Do we truly have on the whole armour of God and stand against all unrighteousness? "The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." Rom. 13:12.

Brother J. F. Marks
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DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from January 15, 1979 Issue

In this third dispensation, we have the origin of nations and languages, and also a continuation of the evil imaginations and

wickedness of the human race. We find God's confusion of their tongue into tongues. The result was "babel." That confusion was made up of the sons of Noah. Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth. Ham was the builder of Babel. From Babel came the name "Babylon", which is so frequently spoken of throughout the Bible. We learn from Gen. 9:28-29 that Noah was six hundred years old at the time of the flood. Also, we understand that his family had reached the age of manhood and womanhood, for it is said that Shem, his youngest son, was ninety-eight years old. Hence, in this short period of time, the "Post-Deluvian Dispensation," after the "Noahic covenant," Gen. 8:20-22, which was a new covenant, and after Noah had built an altar to the Lord and sacrificed thereon, they seemed to take their government into their own hands, which brought about a human government. God had told them to be "fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth," but instead of scattering and doing that, spreading their posterity, they kept together and sought to build a city, and to make themselves a name, by building a "tower," which they thought would reach unto Heaven.

The result of this disobedience was that God (the "Eternal") came down from Heaven and "confounded their tongues" (language). Gen. 11:1-4, "And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth." We see that this was indeed disobedience for God had told them to "multiply and replenish the earth," which would have required their scattering over the whole earth.

"And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do." Dear reader, was this imagination any more senseless than the world's imagination today? No more so, we think. "Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth." Gen. 11:5-9.

We learn that the days of this Dispensation was in the days of Peleg, when the "Babelites" took over and the earth was divided.

Gen. 10:25, "And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name was Joktan." Peleg was a great-great grandson of Shem. Nimrod, the grandson of Ham, was the first monarch.

The descendants of Ham were the founders of many nations, Gen. 10:15-20. Hence, the earth was apportioned among the nations. Nimrod's kingdom was Babel. In the closing verses of Gen. 11, which bring us to the close of this, the third, Dispensation of the people of this world, which was that of "human government," we are told of the generations of Shem and Terah, who was the father of Abram, or Abraham the faithful. Verse 31 of chapter 11 tells us, "And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there. And the days of Terah (Abraham's father) were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran.

This closes our account of the third Dispensation of the world, just at the beginning of the second age of this world. Our next article will give the account of the "Calling out of Abram, or Abraham."

Brother William Root

NOW

If I'm ever going to serve Him, I must serve Him now, today,
For my life is passing swiftly, all my moments fly away.
Yesterday is gone forever, as a shadow that is gone,
And I have no real assurance I will see tomorrow's dawn.

If I'm ever going to turn to Him, and turn away from sin,
If I'm going to live for Jesus, I must even now begin;
For my days are flowing onward in Time's unrelenting stream,
Yesterday is gone forever, and tomorrow is a dream.

If I'm ever going to trust Him, I must trust Him while I may;
I must yield Him full allegiance while the time is called Today;
For my life is growing shorter, and death's summons will not wait,
And 'twill be too late to trust Him when I've passed the outer gate.
He has pardoned my transgression, from sin's chains He's set me
free,

And He bought my life for service when He gave His life for me.
So I yield Him His possession and I make this solemn vow,
"From today Thou are my Master. I will truly serve Thee now."

— Lorie C. Gooding
Selected by Sister Martha Shaffer

MARRIAGE

WERTZ - SNYDER

Sister Rhonda Lee Wertz, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ivon Wertz of McClave, Colorado and Brother James Snyder, of Quinter, Kansas, son of Mr. Ralph Snyder, Colorado Springs, Colorado and Mrs. Marvin Turley, Scott City, Kansas were united in marriage at the Methodist Church at McClave, Colorado, November 25, 1978. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Preston Hollis, Scott City, Kansas, a friend of the groom's family.

The present address of the young couple is Quinter, Kansas 67752.

NEWS ITEMS

McCLAVE, COLORADO

The McClave, Colorado Congregation enjoyed another revival meeting, with Elder Allen Eberly giving us a store of spiritual food, encouraging us to a closer walk with our Dear Saviour. While no one stepped out for the Lord at this time, the good seed was surely sown with power.

We were made to rejoice in August, when a young sister gave her heart to Jesus and was baptized.

We were happy to have Sister Martha accompany Brother Allen and we pray the Lord will bless them richly in their labors for Him.

Sister Aurelia Wertz, Cor.

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation enjoyed Lovefeast services October 29. Visiting ministers throughout the day were: Paul Myers, Frank Shaffer, Laverne Keeney and Jack Snyder.

In the evening approximately one hundred thirty surrounded the tables with Elder James Kegerreis officiating.

The Lord willing, we are planning to have a two week revival meeting March 18 to April 1 with Bro. Fred Pifer, Dallas Center, Iowa as our evangelist. We invite all who can to come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MARCH

March 4 — Israel Cut Off, Assyria to Fall A Remnant. Isaiah 10:1-34.

March 11 — The Stem, Branch and Root. Isaiah 11:1-18.

March 18 — Salvation; The Day of the Lord. Isaiah 12:1-16; 13:1-18.

March 25 — Babylon. Isaiah 13:19-22; 14:1-23.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR MARCH, 1979

CREATION AND CROWNS

Memory Verse: Eph. 2:10

For we are his workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus unto
good works, which God hath
before ordained that we should
walk in them.

Thur. 1—Eph. 2:1-22

Fri. 2—Eph. 3:1-21

Sat. 3—Eph. 4:1-32

Memory Verse: Eph. 4:24

And that ye put on the new man,
which after God is created in
righteousness and true holiness.

Sun. 4—Col. 1:1-29

Mon. 5—Col. 3:1-25

Tues. 6—1 Tim. 4:1-16

Wed. 7—1 Pet. 4:1-19

Thur. 8—2 Pet. 3:1-18

Fri. 9—Rev. 3:1-24

Sat. 10—Rev. 4:1-11

Memory Verse: Col. 1:16

For by him were all things
created, that are in heaven, and
that are in earth, visible and in-
visible, whether they be thrones,
or dominions, or principalities,
or powers: all things were
created by him, and for him:

Sun. 11—Rev. 10:1-11

Mon. 12—Ex. 25:1-22

Tues. 13—Ex. 25:23-40

Wed. 14—Ex. 29:1-25

Thur. 15—Ex. 29:26-46

Fri. 16—Ex. 30:1-21

Sat. 17—Ex. 37:1-29

Memory Verse: Job 31:35 & 36

Oh that one would hear me!
behold, my desire is, that the
Almighty would answer me, and
that mine adversary had written
a book. Surely I would take it
upon my shoulder, and bind it
as a crown to me.

Sun. 18—Ex. 39:1-21

Mon. 19—Ex. 39:22-43

Tues. 20—Lev. 8:1-21

Wed. 21—Lev. 8:22-36

Thur. 22—2 Sam. 1:1-27

Fri. 23—2 Kings 11:1-21

Sat. 24—Est. 1:1-22

Memory Verse: Psal. 8:5

For thou hast made him a little
lower than the angels, and hast
crowned him with glory and
honour.

Sun. 25—Est. 2:1-23

Mon. 26—Est. 6:1-14

Tues. 27—Est. 8:1-17

Wed. 28—Job 19:1-29

Thur. 29—Job 31:1-20

Fri. 30—Job 31:21-40

Sat. 31—Psal. 8:1-9

Memory Verse: 1 Pet. 4:19

Wherefore let them that suffer
according to the will of God
commit the keeping of their souls
to him in well doing, as unto a
faithful Creator.

Rev. 4:11

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to
receive glory and honour and
power: for thou hast created all
things, and for thy pleasure they
are and were created.

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

I KNOW SOMETHING GOOD ABOUT YOU

Wouldn't this old world be better
If the folks we meet would say,
"I know something good about you!"
And then treat us just that way?

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy
If each handclasp warm and true
Carried with it this assurance?—
"I know something good about you!"

Wouldn't life be lots more happy
If the good that's in us all
Were the only thing about us
That folks bothered to recall?

Wouldn't life be lots more happy
If we praised the good we see?—
For there's such a lot of goodness
In the worst of you and me.

Wouldn't it be nice to practice
That fine way of thinking, too?—
You know something good about me
I know something good about you!

— Author unknown
Selected by Sister Martha Shaffer

FAITH AND THE BIBLE MONITOR

It is easy to associate faith with the history of the Bible Monitor. It required much faith for its founders to launch it upon the sea of publication. Many religious journals have been started but only a few have survived. Despite knowing this, the Brethren who were behind it exercised faith and brought forth this journal. Her continued survival, although not without trouble or opposition, has shown a continual faith exercised by those associated with her publication.

Faith's association with the Bible Monitor is not merely a historical fact but an everyday occurrence. Faith has a part in the production of each issue. This is not merely a trust in the printer and the Post Office to produce and deliver each issue, but a faith that God will continue to inspire the writing of articles and poems and other contributions to the Bible Monitor's content. It is a faith needed nearly every issue. So often when it is time to begin putting together an issue, the material needed is not on hand. But faith is rewarded as articles arrive one by one until enough are available to make up an issue. Each issue of the Bible Monitor is a memorial to faith. Faith has a great part in every facet of her production and delivery. This faith is exercised not only by those who are actively engaged in her production but by many others who provide the finances and the material that is necessary.

Faith is a necessary ingredient for those who write articles. They know there will be no monetary reward and perhaps little thanks received for the effort made. Unlike most religious journals now being published, the Bible Monitor does not pay for articles but

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must depend upon the faithful endeavors of her readers. This leaves her columns open to all who wish to write upon suitable subjects in a Christian manner. Her pages are not filled with glib words written by professional wordsmiths. The readers, whether officials or not, have an equal opportunity to contribute to her pages. This is an expression of faith that the readers of the Bible Monitor are Bible students, thus they are able to write articles beneficial to one another.

Faith is a necessary part in the financial end of the Monitor's existence. It is rewarding to see the new and renewed subscriptions come in. These represent the faith and faithfulness of the readers, who have shown continual faith in the production and arrival of the Bible Monitor twice a month. It also demonstrates their faithfulness in renewing their subscriptions and giving needed support to the Monitor. This faith is further expressed in the donations given by individuals and congregations. These donations make up the difference between the subscriptions, which are kept low to encourage all to subscribe, and the total cost of the Bible Monitor's publication. This is the kind of faith which goes beyond mere words and hopes.

Faith is not only a part of the Bible Monitor's history but a large part of her present. When faith is in evidence the work prospers even when it would seem that failure were the only thing that could come forth. The Bible Monitor has weathered many storms but she is still in existence because of the demonstration of faith by all connected with her.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Heb. 11:1. While our earthly eyes can see only physical barriers and our minds can only hope for solutions, the eye of faith sees these same things in a different light. The impossible becomes as solid a reality as any other substance or as trust-worthy as well-established evidence in court. When men begin to rely too heavily upon their own understanding and education they lose this eye of faith.

This faith is in operation in the publication of the Bible Monitor, for it gives each one an opportunity to prove God's faithfulness. Whether through donations, articles, prayers or any other way, each one can fulfill the faith of the others. Contributors and subscribers fulfill the faith of those who tend the Bible Monitor's finances. Writers fulfill the faith of those who tend to the production of each issue. Each one who helps in the publication fulfills the faith of the readers and subscribers. Each one has a part. Be faithful in that part which you can fulfill.

CULTS

The twentieth century has brought us closer to Christ's return. It has focused on human experience rather than a Christian one. It has brought to the front a virulent cultic and occultic revival that is sweeping the world. Bible prophecy is ignored and present experience is considered the main source of truth. Neoorthodoxy, with its dependence on present revelation, has given strength to the charismatic movement, with its emphasis on speaking in tongues and divine healing, and more recently to the growing interest in the occult and cults of different kinds. Historically, as well as logically, belief in the Bible has been inseparable from faith in Jesus Christ, His person and His work. Disbelief of the inspired Word of God has also brought about questioning the validity of Christ.

Today, cults are spreading with phenomenal speed and millions of people are being led astray by them. The danger is that too many in our Church, as well as in other Bible-believing Churches, unacquainted with and uninterested in the history and actual teachings of these groups, are lulled into a state of indifference toward them. Worse yet, some now believe that these false religions are a true way to God, even though they lead to eternal death. For this reason, I feel led by the Holy Spirit to relate to you information about the various groups (Cults) that might confront you and give you information that will help you refute their false teachings when you are challenged to do so.

Cultists can surprise the Christian by their apparent mastery of your own textbook, the Bible, and can confuse you with their glib quotations, which are usually used out of context.

A cult might be defined as a group of people polarized around someone or someone's interpretation of the Bible, when the interpretation of the Bible is characterized by major deviations from orthodox Christianity.

Remember, the growth of cults is a true sign of the end of the age, when deceivers "shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

Let's begin our study by considering the JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES. Who hasn't been approached by one of their "missionaries?" They were started by Charles Russell. He was elected as their pastor in 1876. Russell totally rejected many of the cardinal doctrines of Christianity, for example, the Trinity, the deity of Christ, Christ's physical resurrection and return, and the teaching of eternal punishment for sin. "The Watchtower" is his

brainchild. They distribute about eighteen million copies each month in seventy-eight languages. Their Awake magazine has a circulation of over fourteen million. Jehovah's Witnesses' membership exceeds two million. They own, among other things, whole blocks of valuable property in downtown Brooklyn, a large printing plant, and a missionary training school — Gilead — located in South Lansing, New York.

Russell's career was highly colored with moral and legal scandal. He was divorced because of his involvement with another woman. J. F. Rutherford, known as the "Judge," was Russell's lawyer. He took over the movement in 1916. Frederick W. Franz pilots it today. In writings used by the church, their religious opponents are called "enemies of God," clergymen are described as "dumb dogs." In 1927, "Creation" by the Judge was published. It stated that "the second presence of Christ dates from about 1874. Because it was the Lord's due time to restore these truths, He used Charles T. Russell to write and publish books known as Studies in the Scriptures, by which the great fundamental truths of the divine plan are clarified." They teach that the 2,520 year reign of the Gentiles, ended in 1914. They reject the doctrine of the Trinity as a "false doctrine promulgated by Satan." For them, our Lord was the archangel Michael prior to His arrival on earth, and while He was on earth He was only a perfect man, who merited immortality by obedience to Jehovah's commands.

They claim Christ returned in 1914 and 1918, that the "Bible Hell is the tomb," that "The doctrine of a burning hell where the wicked are tortured eternally after death cannot be true, mainly for four reasons: Because it is wholly unscriptural, because it is unreasonable, because it is contrary to God's love, and because it is repugnant to justice." They say the "ultimate end of Satan is complete annihilation." Finally, they conclude that "we see that the claim of religionists, that man has an immortal soul, and therefore differs from the beast, is not Scriptural" plus, "the undefeatable purpose of Jehovah God to establish a righteous kingdom in these last days was fulfilled A.D. 1914." So, the end product of this cult is the denial of our Lord's deity, resurrection, and return. They dishonor Him, regarding His very reason for dying for all men to purchase for us a home in Heaven.

The following scriptures can be quoted to defend your faith and defy their false teachings: The Trinity: Genesis 1:26, 11:7, 18:2-3; Matthew 28:19; John 14:16. The Deity of Christ: John 1:1, 5:18, 8:59, 10:28; Philippians 2:8-11; Hebrews 1:1-4. The Atonement: John 1:29; Revelation 13:8; Hebrews 9:22; I Peter 2:24; Colossians 1:20. The Return of Christ: Matthew 24:30; Revelation 1:7; I

Thessalonians 4:16-17. The Resurrection of Christ: John 20:27-28; Luke 24:39-44; Mark 16:14; I Corinthians 15:15. Human Government: Romans 13:1-7. The Existence of Hell and Punishment: Matthew 5:22, 8:11; II Peter 2:17; Jude 13. Satan, the Devil: Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10. The Existence of the Soul: Genesis 1:26, 5:1; Acts 7:59; II Corinthians 4:12. The Kingdom of Heaven: Luke 17:20-26; Revelation 22:1-5, 14.

Don't be bluffed into silence with the Jehovah's Witnesses' arrogant pretension of competent scholarship. Use your sword, the Word of God.

Brother Leonard Wertz

HIDDEN SIN

Another year has slipped by and soon we will be starting Revival meetings throughout the Brotherhood. It has been a deep concern of mine, and I'm sure of many others, how can they sit under the sound of the Gospel night after night, time after time, and yet so few are willing to yield their hearts to the Lord. I know we are living in the time of rebellion and gross sin on every hand, also Satan is offering so much to the young that is alluring to their eyes. But is this the only reason why we do not see victories won for the Lord? I believe there is even a greater reason why the Power of God cannot work in the Churches today. Perhaps we who are Christians should begin to examine our lives. Could it be we are hindering the Power of God to save?

Let's go back to the Word of God and see what happened when just one man covered sin in his life. A man of Israel, Achan, had stolen a garment, silver and gold, part of the spoil of Jericho. Joshua had consecrated the gold and silver to the Lord. Because of one man's disobedience the whole army of Israel was defeated at Ai. Wouldn't it be a tragedy if you or I should have hidden sins in our lives, or unconfessed sins, or some past sin, that we look back to as a sweet morsel, that might hinder the power of God to save? Think of it!

Revival is for the Church member not the sinner. If we will go to the Lord and confess ALL sin, we can have a revival. As a result, souls will be saved through the power of God. God's power is as great today as it ever was. It is my prayer that every one of us may go to our secret closet and confess to the Lord and get right with God and man. Maybe the Lord will reveal to you some restitutions that need to be made. Do it! Your peace of heart and mind will be great.

Lamentations 3:40, "Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord."

What if I should be the cause,
Of a soul to be lost in sin,
Could I expect my Lord to give to me,
A home in Heaven with Him?
If I have said, I love the Lord,
And treated my brother with hate,
Could this turn away the sinner,
And cause him this awful fate?
Perhaps I've seen a soul in need,
Of food or comfort in some form,
And I closed my bowels of mercies,
And said "Friend be thou warmed."
Then there is the soul in deep, dark sin,
For the Word he is longing to hear,
And we turn our ear away from him,
It is our reputation that we fear.
No let's guard our lives with dignity,
An example of Christ let's be,
And that poor lost sinner will find his way,
When he can see Christ, in me.

In Christian love
Sister Lucille Throne
Alvordton, Ohio

SEPARATION

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." II Cor. 6:17-18.

The Lord calls us to a life of separation when we become His children. Immediately we feel a separation from unbelievers; this is His plan for us. "... For what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light from darkness?" II Cor. 6:14. Not only are we to have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but we are to reprove them. This is very plain. The reason for God dealing thus with us is that He is a jealous God and He wants first place in our lives.

When God called His servants He separated them — sometimes from relatives and loved ones — so He could get all of their attention. When the Lord called Paul to reveal His Son in him, he said, "... Immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood: Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but

I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days." Gal. 1:16-18. While separated from men, Paul learned of God and His will. He did not confer with flesh and blood, but listened to the Lord. No wonder he had such a ministry. God revealed so many things to him. Jesus said, "Learn of me." But how often we know so little about Him and too much about people and things. We only learn of Him as we spend time with Him.

When Moses attempted to deliver God's people, he was forced to flee into the desert. He was there for forty years tending sheep. All this time he was learning the Lord. Then God gave him the call that sent him forth as a deliverer of the people.

Elijah was alone with God by the brook Cherith, fed by ravens, while quietly waiting on God; he was sent forth with a miraculous ministry.

John the Baptist was hidden away in the desert before he came forth to introduce Jesus to the world. Jesus also had a life of seclusion from his boyhood, until He came forth to minister. Before the years of witness, there were years of separation and stillness — alone with God in a secret place. When we hide away with the Lord we come forth with a sweetness and peace that leaves us blessed and satisfied and willing to say, "Not my will, but thine be done."

It was when God's people began to mix with the people of the heathen nations that they got into trouble and lost out with God. It was in the desert wilderness that Jesus met and mastered temptation. Paul came out of the desert with the greatest message that God has ever given to mankind. Moses came out of the desert in strength and power to be a leader and deliverer of God's captive people.

Let us not despise the time of separation. God has a purpose in what He is doing with us, wherever we may be. "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." Phil. 2:13. Have you encountered trouble with people? If so, God may be trying to separate you more from people to draw you unto Himself. Paul was separated from a brother in the Lord — Demas. He said, "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world." II Tim. 4:10a. Paul did not run after him; he let Demas go. They were separated. One went on with God and the other went the way of the world. There are Christians like that today, who love the world and are taken up with it. We want to be as Paul, taken up with the work God has called us to do, even though it be a lonely road.

"And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us." I John 2:17-19. John describes a separation that happened then and it explains why these things happen today. Some folks separate from us, because they will not believe even the simple promises of God concerning eternal life. They try to add their good works and they attempt to establish their own righteousness. The world likes mixers, but God has always demanded that we be a separated people.

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." I Thess. 4:13-18.

Brother C. L. Frost
Kansas City, Missouri

THE DEVIL'S NEWSPAPER

God gave us His Word, which we call the Bible. He used various men to write His Word down, eventually seeing to it that all their writings were collected into one book. It is God's way of getting His Word to us. The Devil has a way of getting his word around, too. If you don't believe that, ask some school students about the drug business. They will tell you that they know where to get anything they want. The pushers don't need to advertise — the word gets around — by way of the "Devil's Newspaper."

Just what is the Devil's Newspaper? It's alot like any other newspaper, except it's mostly a "word of mouth" edition, with Satan as the managing editor. He has a host of assistants — reporters to gather the news, copy editors to check over and criticize what all the others do, layout editors who try to include

every bit of news especially the bad news, and so on. Who is it that does all this? The Bible tells us about many of his staff members, so let's look there for the answer.

If you gossip, you're on the Devil's newspaper. Your official position is a roving reporter. Your "column" will be read by all who hear what you say. You may be giving your "readers" nothing but garbage, but the Devil doesn't care. The more bad talk you spread about someone, the better he likes it. You say you don't gossip? You just present the facts? Many times that, too, only serves the Devil's purpose. You can be sure that the word will always get around, whether it's fact or fiction. By the things you say or imply, you can destroy another person, for "the words of a talebearer are as wounds." Prov. 18:8a. If you wound someone, even with the facts, you are complying with the Devil's wishes and he'll make every effort to keep you on his "newspaper staff."

A copy editor checks the news items, criticizes and corrects where he sees it's necessary. The Devil's "copy editors" are what God calls "busybodies." Just what is a busybody? The dictionary says it's "a meddling person; one who officiously concerns himself with the affairs of others." In common English, this simply means sticking your nose into other people's private business as if it were your own. The Devil does not hire his copy editors; they are merely self-appointed critics who tend more to the affairs of others than to their own. We need to be concerned for the welfare of others, but that is not the same as concerning ourselves with their personal affairs.

"But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters." 1 Pet. 4:15. Being a busybody involves asking questions you ought not, checking up on another's activities, criticizing whatever doesn't look right to you, telling others what to do and how and when to do it. You have no more right to be a busybody than you do to be a murderer or a thief. People do not need you to meddle in their personal affairs, but they do need you to be concerned about their soul's need. If you concern yourself with the proper matters, you won't have time to be a busybody, a shame to the Lord's name.

Layout editors decide which news items go where. They try to give the best stories "front page coverage." They lay out the newspaper to get our attention and the Devil uses this same method to get our attention on someone's mistakes or faults. His "layout editors" take the most attention-getting gossip they can find and give it "front page coverage," spreading it far and wide. The Golden Rule says "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 6:31. You wouldn't like stories spread about you, so why do you do it to others? Jesus said,

"Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?" Matt. 9:4. If we let Him have control of our minds, we won't be thinking evil, because He will show us the good in people rather than concentrating on their flaws.

"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Gen. 6:5. You may not be wicked and your thoughts may not be evil all the time, but you will not be excused just because you think only a little bit of evil just a little bit of the time. "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer." Psa. 19:14. You are responsible to God for your speech and your thoughts; if they are evil, they are not acceptable to God. Everything you say and all that you think about ought to please God, so pray as David did that all will be acceptable in the Lord's sight.

Our thoughts about others, and the things we say about them, are motivated by one of two things — love or selfishness (self-love). Love gives and lifts others up; self-love takes and puts others down. Love has compassion; self-love is glad for calamities, secretly if not openly. Love speaks with kindness; self-love speaks critically and with sharpness. What motivates your thoughts and speech? Is it love, or are your motives evil and selfish? "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." I Cor. 10:31. God limits the things we do, to that which glorifies Him. Being on the Devil's Newspaper does not glorify God, so be careful what you say and what you think. Gossip and such-like only cause heartache, so be a bearer of good news — the message of Christ. That will glorify God.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

NON-RESISTANCE

As we consider this subject in the light of the Holy Bible, your conclusions are not what your church teaches or what your minister says, but what you personally believe. You have gathered your conclusions from the Bible, your Church or your Sunday-school, but what you believe and why, will establish your status in the understanding of the authorities.

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." Matt. 5:44-45. These are Christ's words and should

be a very important guide throughout our entire life. If your words, deeds and daily life have been guided by these teachings, it will not be difficult to prove that you believe these instructions now. If you have been a vulgar, quarrelsome, gossiping individual in the past, it may be difficult to prove that you believe differently now.

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) II Cor. 10:3-4. Christ is our best example of one who was holy and not carnal. In every way the nearer our life follows Christ's life, the easier it will be to live according to the New Testament. Just as Christ had some trials and problems, we can also expect them but in the end we will be victorious, if we have patterned our words and deeds after our Lord and Saviour.

"But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you. Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also. Give to every man that asketh of thee: and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again. And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them." Luke 6:27-32. War and the training for it are just the opposite of these instructions. We need not study long in history to learn that the training for war has always been along the theme of greed, brutality, destruction and pursuing one's own purpose, regardless of the needs and feelings of others.

"We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him." I John 3:14-15. Who is our brother? Whom ever we have the opportunity to help, show good-will and improvement, in the light of Christ's teachings, is our brother. We dare not allow one iota of our influence fall on the side of a murderer.

"But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings; by pureness, by knowledge, by long-suffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left." II Cor. 6:4-7. Do you realize the vast field of opportunity we have to witness for Christ? The Christ life is

definitely a busy life, a controlled life, a life of service to others.

Statements that we all must face then are: "If all the world were according to these teachings, what would the world be like?" "The forces of sin and evil would over-run everything." "For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death: but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God." Rom. 8:5-8. True the powers that be have a work to do and may be brutal sometimes but the Christian has a different word to do. According to Christ's teachings, we are to support these powers, as long as we do not need to do anything directly opposite to the New Testament. Yes, even to pray for their welfare but yet not to follow any of the things of the flesh. "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us." II Tim. 2:12.

Brother Howard J. Surbey
749 W. King St.
Littlestown, Pa. 17340

FINISH THY WORK

"Finish thy work, the time is short;
The sun is in the west,
The night is coming down; till then
Think not of rest.

"Rest? Finish thy work, then rest;
Till then, rest never.
The rest prepared for thee by God
Is rest forever.

"Finish thy work, then sit thee down
On some celestial hill,
And of heaven's everlasting bliss
Take thou thy fill.

"Finish thy work, then go in peace,
Life's battle fought and won;
Hear from the throne the Master's voice,
'Well done! Well done!'

"Finish thy work, then take the harp,
Give praise to God above;
Sing a new song of mighty joy
And endless love!"

Selected by Brother Lester M. Flora

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

TOO MANY FISH!

LUKE 5:1-11

Fishing can be very exciting. I can remember when I was a boy and my father would take me fishing. Sometimes we caught a lot of fish and other times we caught nothing. It wasn't exciting to catch no fish. The only bites we would get then would be mosquito bites.

Jesus was walking along the sea of Galilee and many people were with Him. There were so many people that they pushed and pressed each other trying to get close to Jesus. As Jesus stood by the water He saw two boats by the shore. One of them belonged to Simon who was also called Peter. Jesus got into Simon's boat and asked him to push the boat out from the land. Then Jesus sat in the boat and taught the people.

When Jesus was through speaking he said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught of fish." Simon was surprised at this because they only fished at night. They just didn't catch fish in the day time. Simon said, "Master, we have worked all night and caught nothing but never the less, if you say so, I will let down the net."

So they let down the net and what do you think happened? Immediately their net was filled with so many fish that it began to tear. Fish were everywhere. Peter signaled to his partners to bring the other boat and help. Soon both boats were filled — heaping with fish. Jesus, Peter, James and John were in the boats with all those squirming fish flopping around them. Then the boats began to sink. Peter fell down at Jesus knees with all those fish around and said, "Depart from me for I am a sinful man, O Lord." He was astonished at all those fish and so were his partners.

When they brought the boats to shore, they just left them there and followed Jesus. I don't know what happened to the fish but maybe the people who were there got them.

It would have been something to have been with Jesus and to have seen all those fish. I believe those fishermen thought if Jesus could cause all those fish to be caught in the daytime, He could do anything. He must be the Son of God! How right they were.

Brother Rudy Cover



Gossip is like soft soap — mostly lye.

NEWS ITEMS**GENERAL CONFERENCE 1979**

June 2 - 6

The Lord willing, the 1979 General Conference will be held at Mission Springs Conference Grounds near Santa Cruz, California.

Please send your reservations, as soon as possible, to:

Bro. Rudy Cover
2034 Roble Ave.
Modesto, California 95351
or

Bro. Henry Walker
12413 Delaware Road
Hickman, California 95323

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Lord willing, the Pleasant Ridge Congregation will hold their Revival Services March 18 through April 1. Bro. Joseph Flora from Dallas Center, Iowa will be our evangelist.

Come enjoy these services with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhen, Cor.

SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

This past year we enjoyed another revival meeting with Bro. Allen Eberly as our evangelist. He gave us many inspiring and heart-searching messages. We were happy he could be with us for two weeks. May the Lord bless Bro. and Sis. Eberly as they go forth in the Lord's work. During the meetings, there was one who gave his heart to the Lord and was baptized.

At our Lovefeast in November we were blessed in worship with good attendance and ten visiting ministers who brought forth the Word of God. We thank all those who came and helped make it an inspiring day. Visiting ministers were: Brethren Ray Shank, David Ebling, Paul Myers, Frank Shaffer, Virgil Leatherman, Laverne Keeney, Emmert Shelly, Allen Eberly, James Kegerreis, and Howard Surbey, who officiated in the evening.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVII

MARCH 15, 1979

NO. 6

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

MORNING DEVOTION

To rise early in the morning,
While all is quiet and still,
Gives me time to meditate;
Time to seek His will,
Time to read the Bible,
Time to plan my day,
Time to let God cleanse my heart,
And throw the trash away;
Time for making blessings,
Time to offer praise,
Time to ask forgiveness
For other wasted days.
The yoke is then much lighter;
I'm more refreshed and strong,
Ready to do the task at hand -
Knowing I'm not alone.

— Jeanne Duren
Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

THE SUPERIORITY OF CHRIST

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him (Jesus), and given him a name which is above every name." Phil. 2:9.

To have a name superior to all others demands a performance that is extraordinary. An exalted, glorified name is given only to the best. Jesus qualified for His superior name through His humiliation and death that purchased man's salvation. No greater thing could ever have been accomplished. He certainly deserves that name that excels all others.

The Book of Hebrews shows Christ's superiority. Jesus is shown to be superior to the angels, to man, to Moses, to the Levitical priesthood and to the Law's sacrifices. One who is greater than these, truly is worthy of the exalted name given Him by the Father.

The angels are faithful, ever-present servants or messengers of God, who are superior to man. Although they are worthy of honor, they are not above Christ or God. Although these messengers are faithful, they still are not the Son. Heb. 1:4, "Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they." The Son, as the heir, is better than the most faithful of servants. The angels were created to be ministering spirits. Jesus is promised a throne and all the glory that accompanies that Heavenly Kingship.

As the Son, He had a part with the Father in the creation of the world. As Creator, He is superior to the world which He has created. When this world perishes along with all of its works, He will continue the same. Heb. 1:10-12. His Creatorship places Him above the world.

THE BIBLE MONITOR

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Jesus is superior to man, although He put on the form of man. Man was under death's condemnation without hope of recovery by himself. Jesus displayed His superiority through humility and suffering, whereby He was able to overcome the condemnation that was upon all men. He was able to provide the way of reconciliation with God for man. By His example and provision, man is encouraged to overcome temptation and death. Heb. 2:17-18.

Moses was one of the greatest men who ever served God. Because of his faithfulness and steady service, he was used by God not only to lead the people from Goshen to the River Jordan but also to give them the Law. Moses was very highly exalted by the Jews for giving the Law. Certainly the man intrusted with such a responsibility is worthy of honor, but Jesus is greater. Heb. 3:3-4. Moses was faithful in his house, but Jesus as a builder of all things, including the Law, was superior to the one who received the Law. The builder is greater than the building because he planned and assembled that building. Moses' lack of perfection places him below the perfect Jesus.

Besides being greater than Moses, the receiver of the Law, He also is greater than that Law. The Law was given that Israel might realize their sins and their inability to deliver themselves. The Law demanded many sacrifices as reminders and acts of obedience to God. The Law, itself, could not save anyone, only the Grace of God could provide that deliverance through the observance of the Law. Jesus has the power to save and deliver souls.

Since Jesus is superior to the entire Law, it is obvious that He is superior to the parts of that Law. The Law was administered by the priests. Although the priest offered the sacrifices demanded by the Law for the people, he also had to offer the same sacrifices for himself because he was imperfect. Jesus was the Perfect Priest, who could offer the proper sacrifice for the people but did not need to offer sacrifices for Himself, since He was perfect. He could be compassionate because He had assumed the fashion of man.

The priest, who sacrificed the sin offering, could offer only the blood of bulls, goats, sheep or doves. These were but animal sacrifices. The sacrifice of Jesus was superior for it was God's sacrifice of the Perfect Lamb of God. The sacrifices of the Law were repeated over and over as needed, but the sacrifice of Jesus was made once for all. The blood of God, though in human flesh, was superior to the blood of dumb animals. Heb. 9:12.

Read the Book of Hebrews and see the superiority of Jesus. Choose between Him and these lesser things. If you put your trust in anything less, you will have failed in this life. Jesus is superior; come to Him today. Do not accept second best.

WHEN GOD SAYS WAIT, THEN WHAT?

There are times when we seek the Lord's will in a matter, and He says, "Yes, — but wait." It certainly is thrilling to know He said, "yes," to know that we have His approval. We are so thrilled that at first we are not aware of what God really said. Finally, the words "but wait" come forcibly to our minds. Now what does He mean by that? What are we to do? Try to help things along, since we know it's God's will? Or should we sit idly by and see what happens?

What does it mean to wait? Some people's idea of waiting is to sit with their hands folded, aimlessly letting the hours slip by. After all, God said He'd take care of everything, didn't He? Others fuss and fret while they wait; they push and shove, trying to hurry things along. They are like a bunch of cattle pressing against a gate. Until it opens, their efforts only bring exhaustion and nothing is accomplished. Surely there is more to waiting before God than either of these two extremes — doing absolutely nothing and complete turmoil.

What does God expect when He says to wait? The word "wait" means "to stay or rest in expectation or patience; to remain in a state of inaction until the proper moment for action or till freedom for action has been given." It also means "to be ready to serve." Simply speaking, when we wait we have a purpose; it is not aimless, idle waiting. It means we are expecting something, and even though we have God's approval, we don't move ahead until He gives the signal. God knows the best time as well as the best way, and He does expect us to wait on Him for both.

One purpose in waiting is for renewal of our strength. "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isaiah 40:31. By waiting on the Lord, our vigor is renewed, often physically as well as spiritually. He gives us the strength to rise above our circumstances, so we are not overwhelmed by them. We are given greater endurance so we can move at top speed without weariness, or we can move slowly and not be overcome by the ordinary stresses of life.

"Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord." Psalms 27:14. We can wait on a bus or train and end up with nothing but frustration and messed-up plans. But when we wait on the Lord, He strengthens us and takes away the frustration. God can give us peace in waiting; He can give us peace when everything is moving along smoothly — in the wrong direction! Waiting is not easy; to stay in good spirits while we wait is even harder, but with God's help, we can do it.

When God says wait, He doesn't put a time limit on it. This becomes a test of our faith at that point. Do we trust Him enough to wait as long as He asks us to? Will we go to Him and accept the strength He can give us so we can go on? "I can't bear to wait" needs to become "not my will but thine be done, even if it means I must wait." Sometimes we are so impatient and we think only about now, but in light of eternity, what does it matter if we must wait awhile for something here? If our eyes are on eternity, our present frustrations won't seem so tragic.

We wait on the Lord for mercy (see Psa. 123:2), we wait for His care on other matters. But what happens if we refuse to wait? Sometimes God puts up a barrier that we can't get past and we must wait, but at other times, He doesn't. That is when others get trampled on, while we try to get what we want or do what we want. When we wait on the Lord, He will work out every detail so no one gets hurt or trampled on. No one gets cheated out of the Lord's blessing when we wait on Him and let Him do what's best for everyone.

Love should motivate everything we do, whether we wait or act right now. If we love God and really believe that He loves us, we will trust Him to do what's best. Certainly God's wisdom far exceeds ours; can we not safely trust Him, even when He says "Yes, — but wait"? When the time is right, He will work things out for us. If we wait faithfully, He will bless us. If we do not rest in His care, we only spoil what God wants to give us.

"But tarry ye..., until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49b. The disciples had to wait until they received power and so do we. They were to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit; they were powerless without the Spirit to guide and direct. We are just as helpless, until we learn to wait for the Spirit's direction. "I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry." Psa. 40:1. Help will be given to us, if we will just wait.

When God says wait, then what? The best advice is found in God's Word: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Prov. 3:5-6. You may not understand what the waiting is all about, but you can be sure of God's care while you wait. You can, and should, rest in this promise: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Rom. 8:28. Whenever God asks you to wait, it may look hopeless, but you can be sure that He will work out His purpose in your life. Trust Him, rest in His care and the Lord will bless you for your faith in Him.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

PART 6

The Fourth Dispensation of the world, known as, the Patriarchal Dispensation, or the Dispensation of the Family. The name Patriarch is given to the head or prince of a family, chiefly to those who lived before Moses. Hence, we might call Noah one of the Patriarchs.

At the beginning of this Dispensation, Abraham was the head. He received a call from God. He is called the father of the faithful. The Word of God calls him a Patriarch. Heb. 7:4, "Now consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils." Cruden tells us that the name "Patriarch" comes from the Greek word, "Patriarches," which signifies head of a family. The Apostle Peter calls the Psalmist David a Patriarch. Acts 2:29, "Men and brethren, let us freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day."

We consider there were four specific Patriarchs who lived before Moses, namely: Noah, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. These four are symbols of the four "beasts" of heaven, Rev. 4, and their spirits are living spirits in heaven. Ezek. 1; Isa. 6:1-4. However, there were other Patriarchs of old. Jacob's twelve sons are called Patriarchs. Acts 7:8, "And he gave him the covenant of circumcision (that was Abraham): and so Abraham begat Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth day; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat the twelve patriarchs." This fourth Dispensation extended from the call of Abraham to the exodus from Egypt, approximately four hundred and thirty years.

It seems that during the third dispensation of human government Noah and his sons had drifted into idolatrous worship (became Babylon or confusion). Even Terah, the father of Abram, was an idolater. Therefore, if God had any true witnesses on earth, after Noah died at the beginning of this Dispensation, before Abram we are not told of them. The call of Abram, Gen. 12:1-3, "Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee. And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

Jesus Christ was of the "seed of Abram, or Abraham," hence in these verses we have a revelation of God's blessing of Abraham with a promise of Christ. God knew His man Abraham. He knows

us. Abraham heard God's call. Heb. 11:8-10, "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went, By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Rom. 4:13, 17, 20-22, "For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith." ... "(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were." ... "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness."

Genesis 12:3, "... and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." We have the fore-shadowing of God's third Covenant with man. Note: God's covenant with Abraham and to his seed, including Christ. This Covenant was made to him, as an individual, and was confirmed, or extended, to Isaac, to Jacob (who was later named Israel), and their seed, through David and on down through Christ, who is the mediator of the new and better Covenant. Paul reveals God's Covenant to Abraham in Gal. 3:7-20. However, we will leave that account of Abraham's Spiritual Heritage, through his seed and the final account of an earthly heritage, for future chapters.

In this chapter, we wish to show God's promises to him of an earthly possession and that it would be everlasting through his seed. These will all be pointed out when we come to the Covenants of God, including the New Covenant. The New Covenant is the spiritual covenant of God in Christ Jesus, with His chosen followers, His elect, frequently mentioned in the New Testament. The Lord spoke to Abram, Gen. 13:16-17, "And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee."

It seems by these words, "and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed," that this Covenant extended to all the Gentile nations of the world; as well as to God's chosen nation, the coming "Israel." However, according to the Apostle Paul, it was without a doubt, not understood by the Patriarchs, about their Spiritual

inheritance. Nevertheless, God gave to Abraham and to his seed the children of Israel, a special, separate Covenant. As we shall see, the Covenant of Law was revealed in the next Dispensation, which is the Sinaic Covenant.

God's Covenant to Abraham is stated again in Gen. 17:11, or a token of the Covenant, "And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you." Also verses 13-14, "He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant." While this covenant was everlasting, yet we learn that God in the New Covenant abolished circumcision.

Let us note: Gen. 17:1-4, "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations." Gal. 3:29 shows that covenant was extended through Christ, "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

God confirmed this Covenant with Abraham the second time by His angel. Gen. 22:15-18, "And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, and said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing (he had offered up his son Isaac), and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice."

It is the purpose of the writer, to show by the Word of God, that God promised to Abraham and to his seed through Christ, an earthly possession, as well as a Spiritual inheritance. It seems that it was God's purpose, at the time, to bring it about through Abraham's posterity, the children of his own flesh, the children of Israel, Isaac's and Jacob's descendants, by His Law, which is called the Old Covenant, or Old Law or the Law of Works, as recorded in the Old Testament. Yet we find that, that Covenant was faulty and therefore God made the New Covenant with them, through the One Seed, which is Christ. This seems to be proved by the nature of the two Covenants, also by God's "everlasting kingdom," who are now His elect, by the superior and supreme sacrifice made by His Son, Jesus Christ.

All these subjects, we consider to be combined in "Holy Writ." Salvation and entrance into God's everlasting, spiritual kingdom is secured only through Christ, the one seed, who is Abraham's seed, the "Messiah" of the world, of both Jew and Gentile. We understand Abraham's blessing and the Covenant of inheritance, both fleshly and Spiritual concerning his seed, was given to him because of his faith. Heb. 11:19; Rom. 4:13.

To be continued

Brother William Root

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"AND JESUS HEALED THEM ALL"

There were many people who were sick when Jesus was here. Some had fevers, some leprosy, some had unclean spirits. They had all kinds of diseases. The doctors of that time couldn't begin to heal all the people who were sick.

One day Jesus came to Peter's home. Peter's mother-in-law was very sick in bed with a fever. Jesus went to her, just touched her hand and the fever left. Immediately she got up and ministered unto them. To see a person healed like that must have been something! (Mark 1:29-31)

Another time a leper came to Jesus and kneeled down to Him and said, "If you will, you can make me clean." That leper had a lot of faith, didn't he? There was no cure for leprosy. Lepers weren't allowed to be near other people. If they did happen to see anyone they had to call out, "Unclean, unclean." To have leprosy was a hard thing to bear. Maybe this leper had heard that Jesus could heal diseases. Anyway, he put all his hope and trust in Jesus. Jesus said to him, "I will, be thou clean." Right away he was healed and was clean again. How wonderful to be able to go home to his family and friends. (Luke 5:12-16.)

One evening as the sun was setting all the people who had any disease or sickness were brought to Jesus. Jesus just put His hands on them — everyone. There just wasn't any kind of disease that Jesus couldn't heal.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to have someone near us who could heal us anytime we get sick? Jesus is the only one who could do that. Jesus did heal many people when He was here but there is something more wonderful that Jesus did: He made it possible that you can have your sins forgiven. Sin is to the soul like leprosy is to the body. Sin will destroy the soul if there is no remedy. Jesus is the remedy. He gave His life on the cross at calvary. Now everybody can have their sins forgiven if they will only come to Him.

Brother Rudy Cover

ALCOHOLISM A DISEASE?

If alcoholism is a disease:

- It is the only disease that is contracted by an act of will;
- It is the only disease that requires a license to propagate it;
- It is the only disease that is bottled and sold;
- It is the only disease that requires outlest to spread it;
- It is the only disease that produces a revenue for the government;
- It is the only disease that provokes crimes;
- It is the only disease that is habit-forming;
- It is the only disease that is spread by advertising;
- It is the only disease without germ or virus cause, and for which there is no human corrective medicine.

Selected from Civic Forum

There is an accepted theory sent out across the land by many wellmeaning people that alcoholism is a disease. Those who do not know the Word of God may be justified in believing this, but what about Christian people accepting this belief? The Bible calls drunkenness sin, and all who are guilty cannot enter the Kingdom of God. I Corinthians 6:10, "Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the Kingdom of God." The Bible does not indicate anywhere that one with cancer or any other disease cannot enter the Kingdom of God. Disease can strike anyone, but drinking is an act of the will. If we were to call drunkenness a disease, then we can say that adultery, fornication, stealing and all other sins are a disease also. I'm sure no one would go that far. The Bible tells us that those who stole shall steal no more, likewise all other sins are to be forsaken.

I believe when a soul yields itself completely, we are delivered from all sin. I John 1:17, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." God can do for us only what we allow Him to. God does not deliver us halfway, leaving us with a hang-up. God would not be living up to His own Word if such were the case. I believe the problem lies with the person. He may want salvation, but holds on to one or more sins. This is not deliverance.

There are organizations that can help suppress drinking, but cannot cure. We must seek help from the right source, God and God only. It is no harder for God to deliver from drinking than from any other sin.

I have heard testimonies of those who have been delivered and no longer have the thirst for drink. We cannot look to man, but to God who delivers us FROM our sins — not IN them.

I believe God's Word is sufficient proof that alcoholism is not a disease, but one of the many sins that plague the human race and the only answer is to trust in the blood of Jesus Christ to deliver.

Psalms 37:5, "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he will bring it to pass."

Sister Lucille Throne
Alvordton, Ohio 43501

TIME

"See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Ephesians 5:15-16.

Herein is a most important admonition for the present hour. There is so much to be done, and so short a time, and so few to do it. "Redeeming the time" means "buying up the opportunities" which are round about us, as though it would cost us something. It surely does cost us time, money, and strength to take advantage of all the opportunities that we find to do good. Sometimes they find us tired, indifferent, or without spiritual energy to enter in and buy them up. Some do not even desire thus to serve God and His people. Our life-day is short upon the earth. In comparison with eternity, it is a little vapor that vanishes away - James 4:14; so brief, so delicate, that it can be marred and made fruitless by a little carelessness. We may need to pay a price for the redemption of our opportunities, but the doing of this will pay us eternal dividends.

We cannot buy valuable things for nothing, for even good dirt costs something. Our time is one of the most precious possessions that God has entrusted to us. He says we are to redeem or buy up the opportunities that are around us during our life-day. That is, we will pay a price to carry out God's will for us. The opportunities He puts in our way — whether for prayer, study of the Scriptures, testimony, preaching, teaching, or whatever else we may find to do — we will pay for it in some way and some day. But, Praise the Lord! That is the manner of enriching ourselves. Many Christians never avail themselves of their privileges in respect of the golden opportunities that lie all around them. They waste the time in foolishness, busy with their own things instead of the Lord's things, and so lose the better part. LET US NOT BE SO FOOLISH.

Brother C. L. Frost
Kansas City, Missouri

CULTS

THE MORMONS

As we consider the major cults, it is important that we learn more about the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the official name for Mormonism. This group, with about three and one half million members, actively promotes the "revelations" of their Prophet Joseph Smith and of Brigham Young. It has tremendous wealth, prestige and zeal for missionary programs and is a threat to Bible-believing Christians, today.

From their national headquarters in Salt Lake City, around eighteen thousand, six hundred Mormon missionaries travel out each year, two by two, to carry on one of the most clever counterfeits of the true gospel, that we see today.

Mormon religion founder, Joseph Smith, Jr., was born in Royalton, Vermont on December 23, 1805. He early gained the reputation of being the biggest faker of the Smith family, which was filled with treasure hunters and workers in the occult. He said that he could see people's futures through "peep stones" and was convicted in an 1826 trial of being a "glass looker." Smith was said to have been the recipient of a vision in which both the Father and the Son spoke to him. They were despaired by the failure of Christendom to dispense the Gospel. He was anointed the humble Joseph, "Prophet of the Restored Christian Religion." He was eventually interviewed by an angel, Moroni, who gave him the "Golden Plates" which later became, you guessed it... the Book of Mormon. This angel also provided Smith with a pair of miraculous spectacles, Urim and Thummim respectively, to help him translate the Golden Plates. The Book of Mormon is supposed to antedate the King James Bible by many centuries.

After Smith's death, Brigham Young, one of his devoted disciples, took up the leadership of the faltering Mormon group and led them westward. No longer persecuted by society, one of the vaunted "Twelve Apostles" even became Secretary of Agriculture.

The statement of faith published by the Mormon church reads somewhat like that of orthodox theology but it is very clever and deceiving. They have the appearance of being Christian when they really recognize Joseph Smith as a prophet, whose words are binding, thus becoming as important or more important than those of Christ.

Mormons deny the Scriptural doctrine of the Trinity and the deity of Jesus. Their theology teaches that Adam God entered

Eden with Eve, one of His celestial wives. The result of this physical union produced the human race. Smith said himself that "the Father has a body of flesh and bones..." Is this supported in John 4:24? Mormons seek to reduce God to a carnal being.

Mormons deny the authority of the Bible, believing the Book of Mormon instead of (or in addition to) the Bible. Their theology denies the virgin birth of Christ and says He was conceived by Adam-God, who descended to earth and generated Jesus in the womb of Mary by physical union. I find this a repulsive and vile concept to promote, like some sort of mythology. They also deny the Biblical doctrine of justification before God on the basis of faith. (Read Romans 5:1.)

The atonement of Christ is not taught by Mormons as it is in the Bible. They say that all the atonement purchased for man was a "resurrection," an earthly paradise with the prospect of everlasting fertility and connubial bliss in the tradition of King Solomon's harem.

Mormon males believe they are potentially gods and that their destiny is sealed. They traditionally believe that someday they will rule a polygamous universe to be presided over by their flesh and bone god, innumerable celestial wives, and Prophet Smith. Lorenzo Snow, a former Mormon leader said: "As man is, God once was — As God is, man may become."

This information may be startling to many of you, but I feel that Bible-believing Christians must take a stand against this cult. Again we must quote Matthew 7:15 that tells us to "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

Today, more than ever, we have to study to know what is "sound doctrine." In these closing days of Grace, it is the responsibility of the Christian Church to defend as never before the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour. What a challenge we have before us, dear friends, that we witness at every opportunity to the TRUE teachings of the Word of God.

Brother Leonard Wertz



Our need of natural water is great; we need the "living water" even more. We must go to the source, Christ, to get the pure, unpolluted, living water. Many souls are parched with sin, as Hagar was for water God will help us overcome all obstacles which keep us from the living water.

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

NEWS ITEMS

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation, the Lord willing, plans for a Lovefeast the last weekend of our revival meeting.

Services will begin Saturday morning March 31, at 11 o'clock followed by services in the afternoon at 2 o'clock and the Lovefeast proper, Saturday evening. Services on Sunday.

Come enjoy these services with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhenn, Cor.

McCLAVE, COLORADO

The District Meeting of the Third District will convene at the McClave Dunkard Brethren Church, April 7, 8 and 9, 1979. The meeting will start at eleven o'clock Saturday. Our Lovefeast will be at 7:30 that evening. There will be all day services on Sunday, with the business meeting on Monday.

We invite all who can to come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Aurelia Wertz, Cor.

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

"A good way to appreciate the yearly miracle of Spring is to worship the One who made it."

The Dallas Center, Iowa Congregation plans to have their Spring meetings on April 14 and 15. All day meeting both days with Lovefeast the evening of the 14th.

We sincerely invite you to come and worship with us.

Sister Juanita Reed, Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR APRIL

April 1 — Assyria and Moab. Isaiah 14:24-32; (15:1-9) 16:1-9.

April 8 — Damascus and Ethiopia. Isaiah 17:1-14; 18:1-7.

April 15 — THE RESURRECTION. Matt. 28:1-20.

April 22 — Egypt and Assyria. Isaiah 19:1-25; 20:1-6.

QUESTIONS:

- (1) Why did God bring judgment upon Moab and Assyria?
- (2) Why was desolation predicted against Israel? (Isaiah 17:10)
- (3) Who besides the watch saw the angel of the Lord descend and roll away the stone from the door of the sepulchre where Jesus was buried? (Matt. 28:1, 5)
- (4) When do you think the Lord will bless Assyria and Egypt who were once Israel's greatest enemies? (Isaiah 19:25)

OBITUARY

ROBERT SWIHART

Bro. Robert W. Swihart was born December 5, 1929, in Oceola, Indiana and departed this life January 17, 1979. He was the son of Elder Roy J. and Mary (Long) Swihart. December 13, 1952 he was united in marriage to Beulah Roesch, who survives, with one son, Delbert and two daughters, Carla and Sharon.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 20, 1979, at the Yoder-Culp Funeral Home, Goshen, Indiana by Elder H. Edward Johnson and Elder William Carpenter. He was a member of the Goshen Dunkard Brethren Church.

They say life is shaped
by those you are with,
by friends.
You become a part of those
around you,
and they of you.
So be it.

Then you have helped make me
what I am,
And I will carry a part of you
with me for eternity.
Lord grant that my life be
an expression of Thanksgiving
for what you have given me.

The family wishes to thank everyone for the many prayers in our behalf; also for the gifts of love, and cards during Bob's illness the past eleven months. May the Lord richly bless you for remembering us.



LOVE

There is no difficulty that enough love will not conquer. No disease that enough love will not heal. No door that enough love will not open. No gulf that enough love will not bridge. No wall that enough love will not throw down. No sin that enough love will not redeem. It makes no difference how deeply seated may be the trouble, how hopeless the outlook, how muddled the tangle, how great the mistake, a sufficient realization of love will dissolve it all. If only one could love enough you would be the happiest and most powerful being in all the world.

Selected by Sister E. M. Alltus

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR APRIL, 1979

CROWNS

Memory Verse: Prov. 16:31

The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.

Sun. 1 - Psa. 21:1-13

Mon. 2 - Psa. 65:1-13

Tues. 3 - Psa. 103:1-22

Wed. 4 - Prov. 4:1-27

Thur. 5 - Prov. 12:1-28

Fri. 6 - Prov. 14:1-35

Sat. 7 - Prov. 16:1-33

Memory Verse: Isa. 28:5

In that day shall the Lord of hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty, unto the residue of his people.

Sun. 8 - Isa. 28:1-29

Mon. 9 - Isa. 62:1-12

Tues. 10 - Lam. 5:1-22

Wed. 11 - Math. 27:27-56

Thur. 12 - Mark 15:1-26

Fri. 13 - John 19:1-22

Sat. 14 - I Cor. 9:1-27

Memory Verse: 2 Tim. 4:8

Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Sun. 15 - Phil. 4:1-23

Mon. 16 - 1 Thess. 2:1-20

Tues. 17 - 2 Tim. 2:1-26

Wed. 18 - 2 Tim. 4:1-22

Thur. 19 - Heb. 2:1-18

Fri. 20 - James 1:1-27

Sat. 21 - 1 Peter 5:1-14

Memory Verse:

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

Sun. 22 - Rev. 2:1-29

Mon. 23 - Rev. 3:1-22

Tues. 24 - Rev. 4:1-11

Wed. 25 - Rev. 6:1-17

Thur. 26 - Rev. 9:1-21

Fri. 27 - Rev. 12:1-17

Sat. 28 - Rev. 13:1-18

Memory Verse: James 1:12

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him.

Sun. 29 - Rev. 14:1-20

Mon. 30 - Rev. 19:1-21

Memory Verses: Rev. 2:10

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Rev. 3:11

Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Lester Fisher
4664 N. State Rte. 48
Covington, OH 45318

(USPS 054-780)

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVII

APRIL 1, 1979

NO. 7

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

E-A-S-T-E-R

Jesus laid His life down for us; We should not forget
If we do not accept Him, some day we shall regret
How each letter contained in this word does signify
The true meaning of Easter, to tell you I will try
I'll Separate each letter, then spell it o'er again
And Christ is always hoping He did not die in vain.

E is for the Early hour when He was crucified
A is for the Aching in His Heart which did abide
S is for the Sacrifice He made for you and me
T is for the Thorns that pierced His brow so cruelly
E is for the Everlasting Love He does bestow
R is for Righteous Ruler all folks should learn to know.

E is for Expression which was sad upon His face
A is for the Angel who the stone rolled from its place
S is for the Sepulchre where our dear Saviour lay
T is for the Tomb from whence He did emerge that day
E is for Exalted One whom we must never scorn
R is for Resurrection which came on Easter morn.

Selected by Sister Ruth N. Snyder
Gettysburg, Ohio

WISDOM

"Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace." James 3:13-18.

There are two kinds of wisdom. One is earthly, developed and promoted by Satan. The other is given by God for the good of all who will profit thereby. There are many points of difference between these two kinds of wisdom, although they share the same name.

The wisdom of God is superior to what man may know or reason out. The Creator must be wiser than His creation. Paul tells us that God's foolishness is wiser than the world's wisdom. The source and content of the world's wisdom is contrary to God's wisdom. Men have the choice of the perverted wisdom of the world or the superior wisdom of God.

Earthly wisdom leads to strife and confusion, since its author, Lucifer, rebelled against God and destroyed the peace that reigned in Heaven. Since his expulsion from Heaven, he has sought followers to spread his ungodly wisdom. Satan desires the honor due God, likewise his followers also desire honor for themselves.

THE BIBLE MONITOR

APRIL 1, 1979

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Men believe their own reasoning and ideas to be better than God's Word. Earthly wisdom leads to strife and hatred, for each values his own thoughts and possessions above the good of any other, consequently, each defends himself and his objects even to the destruction of others.

Because earthly wisdom exalts man, he depends on his feelings as a guide concerning right and wrong. The popular saying is "If it feels right, do it." This precludes the self-discipline that is necessary to consider the well-being of others or to follow the strict teachings of God's Word. This sensualism leads to all the lusts of mankind which bring warfare, sin and death.

Earthly wisdom, while it may seem reasonable and may promise pleasure, will in the end lead to destruction. The envying and strife engendered by this philosophy will lead to confusion and evil works, which will lead to judgment and destruction.

Heavenly wisdom is distinguished by a number of qualifications. Purity is necessary. Earthly wisdom seeks physical, sensual pleasure which leads to impurity, in thought and deed. Jesus instructs us that a pure heart is needed if we expect to see God. If the world tempts toward "doing what comes naturally," remember the price of yielding is high. Nakedness and immodesty are extolled as a return to paradise, but remember God's Word counsels against these very things repeatedly.

Heavenly wisdom is peaceable. The world speaks of each defending his "rights." Yet it is worldly wisdom's emphasis upon fulfilling physical desires that leads to strife and attempts to destroy another's "rights." The Bible speaks of meekness, turning the other cheek, loving one's enemies. If we look to Jesus as our Perfect Example, we will learn to reject the world's emphasis on rights and justice, instead we will be interested in true love and peace.

Gentleness is a very scarce characteristic. The world teaches us to be tough and to lack compassion and pity. Jesus cared for all manner of mankind. He was not tough, yet He endured far more than the toughest of man could have endured, when He bore men's sins.

Heavenly wisdom brings forth fruit of the Spirit, which is well-pleasing to our Heavenly Father. If a man has only the fruit produced from following earthly wisdom, he will have an empty, evil life. Righteousness may be deplored by the world but without it there is no hope of gaining Heaven.

The highest part of Heavenly wisdom is to make our peace with God. Without being at peace with God we can not be at peace with others or have the fruits of righteousness. Worldly wisdom would

tell us such a commitment is unnecessary and that we can better direct our lives ourselves. Will worldly wisdom lead us to a life that will gain us Heaven or will its end be far different?

The choice is yours. You will follow one kind of wisdom or the other. Which will it be?

JESUS LOVES ME

"Jesus loves me, this I know,
For the Bible tells me so."

What's in the Bible that proves that Jesus loves me? That He loves you? John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Giving His Son to die for us is the greatest proof of His love that there is. It took a special love to cause God to give His only Son, the best that He had, to save us. It took a special love to cause Jesus to allow Himself to be given; a love that made Him willing to die on the Cross and become our Savior. No one else will ever love you as much as Jesus loves you.

Jesus died a very painful death, not because of something He had done, but because of what we are. Not only did He suffer on the Cross, but He was tortured greatly before He ever got to the Cross. The crown of thorns gouged His head; the scourging tore His back; He was slapped repeatedly (John 18:23, 19:1-3). Those who were present at His trial and crucifixion increased His suffering by their taunts and mockery; His disciples deserted Him. There was much pain and suffering, but especially, there was the agony of bearing our sin and being forsaken by God because of sin. See Mark 15:34.

Nearly everything the people did added to Jesus' suffering. At one point they tried to relieve it, but He refused. Before the crucifixion, He was offered "wine mingled with myrrh" (Mark 15:23), or "vinegar mingled with gall" (Matt. 27:34), but He refused to drink it. Criminals were given a potion before crucifixion to deaden pain, but Jesus refused to accept anything which would drug His mind. He was fully aware of everything which happened to Him, from the moment of being nailed to the Cross to the moment when He bowed His head and died.

Jesus wanted to give up His life for us, but if His mind had been drugged, He might have died involuntarily. When Jesus bowed His head after committing all into the Father's hands, He died. This act of bowing His head stopped His breathing. When on the cross, the head had to be held up and the body supported by the person's

legs in order for a breath to be taken. This is why breaking the legs of the two others crucified hastened their death. No one took Jesus' life from Him. No man was allowed to hasten this moment, but it was done in God's own time, when all was finished.

Jesus loved His tormentors and He died for them just as much as He died for you and me. He loved John who followed as closely as possible. He loved Peter, who tagged along way behind and who denied Him three times. When Jesus turned and looked at Peter after the denials, I'm sure it was a look of compassion and love, not one of disgust. This look melted Peter's heart and he wept bitterly. Jesus also loved the disciples who left the scene altogether and He loves you and me in spite of our shortcomings.

Because Jesus loves us, He was wounded for our transgressions (Isa. 53:5). He tasted death for all of us (Heb. 2:9). Jesus said, "The cup which my father hath given me, shall I not drink it?" John 18:11b. Everything that the Father asked Him to do, He did, not for His own sake, but for ours. Because Jesus loves us, He keeps on giving to us even now. Besides the salvation He provided, He now intercedes for us. He gives us strength, comfort, hope, peace and joy beyond measure.

Jesus does love me; He does love you. But His love is of no effect until you personally accept Him as your Savior and Lord. Jesus didn't owe anyone anything but He gave Himself for us anyhow. We owe Him everything and we ought to surrender all to Him. Only then can we know the full measure of peace and joy that He wants to give us. Do you love Jesus enough to give Him your whole heart and to receive His peace?

"Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour." John 12:27. "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." Luke 22:42. Jesus did not want to look forward to the hours of agony ahead especially the point when He bore our sins, but because He loved us, He died for us.

The onlookers said, "Save thyself, and come down from the cross." Mark 15:30. In so doing, He could have saved Himself but not us. Love prevailed. He stayed on the Cross. He died there for us so we wouldn't need to die in our sins. By His death, He reconciled us to God; by His resurrection, He provided us with life everlasting. If we accept Jesus as our Savior, the blessings of salvation are ours. Will you do that now?

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"THY SINS ARE FORGIVEN THEE!"

LUKE 5:17-26, JOHN 2:1-12

Jesus did many wonderful things and healed all kinds of diseases. One of the most interesting times was when He healed a man who had the palsy. While Jesus was in the town of Capernaum, He went to a house where he preached to the people.

Walking along the road were four men carrying a man on a stretcher. The man had the palsy and was unable to walk. They were going to Jesus so the man could be healed. Jesus had healed many people so wherever he went the crowds followed Him. When the men arrived at the house where Jesus was, there were so many people that it was impossible for them to go in. I suppose the man who had the palsy was discouraged. He had hoped so much that Jesus would heal him. He wanted to be well again just like anybody else.

The men who carried the sick man didn't give up easily. They came to have their friend healed and were determined to see Jesus. What do you think they did? They lifted the man up on the roof of the house and took off some of the tile so that there was a big hole right over the place where Jesus was. Then they let down the stretcher with the man with the palsy on it right in front of Jesus.

When Jesus saw the man with the palsy He knew that the man and his friends had faith that Jesus could heal. I am sure it made Jesus glad to know that there were some who had faith in Him. Do you know what Jesus said to the sick man? He said, "Man, thy sins are forgiven thee." I wonder what that man thought. He came there to be healed of the palsy and Jesus just forgave his sins. Of course we know that to have our sins forgiven is the most important thing that can happen to us — even more important than to have our body healed of disease.

There were some scribes in the house listening to Jesus talk. A scribe was a person who could write letters. In those days only a few people could write because it was expensive to go to school. The scribes were proud and were usually rich. They were hired to write for other men. When Jesus said, "Thy sins be forgiven thee," the scribes began to reason in their hearts, "Why does this man blaspheme? Who can forgive sins but God only?" You see, they didn't know that Jesus was the Son of God.

Jesus understood what the scribes were thinking and He knows what you and I think too. Jesus said to the scribes, "Which is easier to say, 'Thy sins be forgiven thee' or to say, 'Rise up and walk?' But

that you may know that the Son of man has power to forgive sins, (He said to the man with the palsy) Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And immediately the man with the palsy rose up before them and went to his own house glorifying God. He was completely healed — right now! He could walk again and he was strong enough to carry his bed.

Wouldn't you like to have seen Jesus heal that man. Only Jesus could do such a wonderful thing. Jesus forgave his sins too, which was even more wonderful. Jesus wants to forgive you too. Will you let Jesus come into your heart?

Brother Rudy Cover

TEMPTATIONS

Christ was tempted as we are. We find in Matthew 4:3 these words, "And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread." In the fourth verse, Jesus answered and said, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Christ let nothing come between Him and the merits of God. God knows His children meet with temptations, but He is always near to help and encourage us to make the right decisions. We are told in His Word, that God is faithful and will not let us be tempted above that we are able to bear.

We must not yield to temptation. If we do, we sin by our own choosing. This shows a weakness on our part. Nathaniel Willis once wrote, "No degree of temptation justifies any degree of sin, temptation is only an invitation to sin." William Shakespeare said, "It is one thing to be tempted, and another thing to fall."

I believe that temptations serve as a testing ground for the soul. They can either strengthen us or weaken us. If we want to test a ship we have to take it out where the waves are high in a stormy sea then we can test its strength. A Captain's skill is put to test there. So is the test of life. Often we feel like we are surrounded by a mighty wave of temptations. Let us be careful we don't stumble, but that they become stepping stones to help us.

Temptations are a battleground upon which man's selfishness challenges God's divine will. Temptation is a conflict between that which I want to do and that which I know I ought to do. So many are lost by getting their own way in life, yielding to one temptation after another. The challenge belongs to each of us. It is a decision we each one must make. There is no one but you or I who can say, "no" when tempted.

Let us make Christ the center of our lives. Then we can come to Him for help and He will direct us in the way we should go. The average man only feels the need of God during a crisis, but a Christian feels his dependence upon God and goes through life praying for Divine help. If we are tempted to do something we must be sure it will be for our own good or to help someone else. Never do anything to hurt another soul. Here are two things to remember about temptation. First, you cannot escape it, second, God will give you power to overcome the strongest ones if you only put your trust in Him.

In studying the account of Jesus' temptations it seems to me the third one was the greatest crisis He had to face. Here the tempter took our Blessed Lord to the peak of a high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them. "And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me." The devil did not think that he would receive the answer that Jesus gave him. "Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."

I am sure none of us want to cause a friend or Brother to fall. We don't want to be a stumbling block. Jesus has a work for all to do. Are we always ready to say, "Thy will be done?" This will help us overcome many a temptation.

So many today want to be popular. First we should ask ourselves this question, "What would it cost us to gain popularity?" If you must yield to temptation, lose your self respect, degrade your soul, it would be very costly. It would be far better to anchor your hope upon things eternal.

If we are seeking for a Home in Heaven we must follow Christ and live a pure and holy life while we journey here below. Temptations from without can never harm the soul unless there is an overpowering desire within.

Sister E. M. Alltus

SOMEONE DIED AND LEFT YOU A FORTUNE

I am sure if someone died and left us a fortune in this life, we would do all we could to meet the conditions of that will.

But someone has left us a fortune, which is far better than earthly treasures. The treasure He left us is everlasting. I know that we can't understand just what that means, but by faith we can believe it. Yes, it's true. Christ died for our sins, that He might give us everlasting life. Gal. 1:4, "Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father." I Peter 1:3-4, "Blessed be the God and

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you."

The death of Jesus Christ, nineteen hundred years ago, gives you and me, today, the right of inheritance, provided we fulfill the terms of the will He left. The fortune is free and freely given to us, it costs no money. Romans 8:32, "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" This fortune costs us nothing but obedience to His will.

The terms of His will are: First is faith. John 11:26a, "And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." Second is repentance. Luke 13:3, "... Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Repentance means to be sorry enough for your sins to turn from them and live for Jesus. Third is confession. Matt. 10:32, "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven." Fourth is baptism. Acts 2:38, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Many today teach that you can be saved without baptism, but Jesus in John 3:5, says, "Except a man be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Notice Jesus said, "except a man..." Jesus here is not talking about a natural birth like men today want you to believe. After a man is old enough to know the truth, it is then he must be "Born of the water and of the Spirit." Baptism is essential in order for us to be saved.

After we have met the conditions of the will, we must live and do all things whatsoever He has commanded us. Matt. 28:19. We are to live a holy life, separate from the world. I Peter 1:15, "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation."

If we fail to accept this gift of eternal life we have no one to blame but ourselves, for "God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to a knowledge of repentance." If you fail to accept God's gift you must pay the penalty for your own sins, which is an everlasting eternity in Hell with the devil and his angels. I beg of you to accept His will and receive the inheritance.

Brother W. E. Bashor

CULTS

ARMSTRONG'S WORLD WIDE CHURCH OF GOD

The World Wide Church of God began in 1934 under the direction of its founder, Herbert W. Armstrong. It is one of the fastest growing, richest, and most vocal of the American cults.

Herbert is now an octogenarian, but he still has a great deal of influence in the policies and teachings of the church. He is a master of communications and knows how to effectively utilize the media to spread his religion. This group sponsors more television and radio broadcasts and is on more stations than any of the other cults. Herbert Armstrong was influenced in his early life by the Seventh-Day Adventists and by the writings of Charles Russell, founder of the Jehovah's Witnesses.

He deceives many by saying that Jesus is God, but of course, only in the sense that we too can become gods or the like. He initiated the observance of the seventh-day Sabbath, abstinence from unclean foods, and certain "scientific" means of interpretation of prophecy in his organization. It is taught that no one is born again until the Resurrection (excepting Jesus) and that Satan and all sinful men will be annihilated. Armstrong, denying the emphasis of the complete book of John, says that Christ was raised from the dead as a spirit, not as an immortal man with the physical form of flesh and bones. He indicates that the United States and Great Britain are the ten lost tribes of Israel.

Armstrong says, they, only, have the same gospel that Christ preached. I quote from a recording of one of his broadcasts: "Today Christ has raised up him proclaiming His same Gospel, preparatory to His Second Coming..." "The World Tomorrow" and the "Plain Truth" are Christ's instruments which He is powerfully using. Yes, His message is shocking today. Once again it is the voice in the wilderness of religious confusion." The view he takes of his role parallels the claim made by all cultic leaders. They are the messengers of God uniquely set apart to restore or to correctly present God's message. Jesus, in Matthew 24:24, warns us of such self-made "Christs."

In one of Armstrong's writings, he predicted Christ's return in 1975. He also said that the tribulation would commence on January 7, 1972, the thirty-eighth anniversary of his first regular broadcast. This is false prophecy!

As we further study Mr. Armstrong's writings, we find that he does not believe in the Trinity, that he believes that Christ and God are two separate and individual Persons, that Jesus, alone, of all humans, has so far been saved, that Christ's resurrected body was

no longer human. He says that the Passover, the days of unleavened bread, Pentecost, and the holy days God had ordained forever were all observed by Jesus. Armstrong's theology bombards us almost daily via the media. He is a wolf dressed in the clothing of an innocent lamb. We must carefully compare his words with the truth.

Armstrong's teachings confuse many people because he uses a veneer of Christian terminology and out-of-context quotations from the Bible. When he relates to us that the Trinity is not limited to three Persons, but is actually a family concept in which all persons who accepts his teachings will share, read II Peter 1:17, John 1:1, Titus 2:13, Rev. 22:12-16 and be aware of the CORRECT teaching. When he says that we can become God "just as Jesus is God," declare what is right with Rev. 1:7-8; Colossians 2:9; or again, John 1:1. John 2:19-21, and Luke 24:37-39 contradicts Armstrong's teaching that Christ rose from the dead as a spirit without a physical form. To counter his teachings on the New Birth, quote Luke 1:24, 37; 2:21, 36, or James 1:15, 18. He has even made the statement that the blood of Christ does not finally save anyone. Read I Peter 1:19. No good devotee of the World Wide Church of God eats pork, lobster, clams, shrimp, oysters or other items prohibited under the Mosaic system. What does Paul say in I Timothy 4:1-5? They are even to observe Jewish feast days, new moons, festivals, and sabbaths.

Mr. Armstrong's emphasis upon the Bible, perverted as it may be, has drawn to him a following of sincere and devoted truth-seeking people. They have become confused by his dogmatic pronouncements in the name of God. We need to seriously consider the words of the Apostle Paul in II Cor. 11:3-4 and carefully shun those who would lead us away from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ. I think we have an obligation to witness to these cultists who have been deceived by a counterfeit of true Bible teachings. I pray that we will accept the challenge in the love of Christ, praying always that they might still be reconciled to God. (II Cor. 5:20.)

Brother Leonard Wertz



Zaccheus sought to see Jesus; so did Nicodemus, Joseph of Arimathaea, and the women at the tomb. We can find Jesus if we seek Him in faith. We can seek Him through prayer, and it is needful that we do, for good morals are not enough. Salvation must come to us personally.

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from March 15, 1979 Issue

As we study this fourth Dispensation of the world, we learn that God promised Abraham a son and numerous seed, Gen. 15:4-5, 16:15, 17:15-21. Two sons were born unto him, Ishmael by Hagar and Isaac by Sarah. God promised both sons a great heritage. We learn by these Scriptures God's Divine purpose, which was that the Spiritual inheritance of Abraham's seed was to come through Isaac and through Christ. We learn also, that the coming seed, coming into prominence in the next (fifth) Dispensation, the Old Dispensation, the Old Covenant of Law, were under the "tutelage" of the Law.

We have a full account of this in Gal. 4. Let us study that account. Verses 1-5, "Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. Even so we (Christ's chosen), when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." Now read Gal. 4:21-22. "Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law? For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a free woman." Verses 6 and 7, "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ."

Read verses 23-26, "But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh (fleshly heritage); but he of the freewoman was by promise. Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all." "So then, brethren (under the New Covenant), we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free." Verse 31. "Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman." Verse 30. We see in all this, God's Divine purpose, which was the Spiritual inheritance of Abraham's seed, through Isaac and Christ.

Let us now sum up this Dispensation of the "family." First, we have the record of Abraham's offering up his son Isaac as a

sacrifice. This is a type of God's offering of His Son Jesus Christ. We learn of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, of Isaac's family, of Jacob's family, of Joseph being sold into Egypt, as a preserver of fleshly life and family, of the Exodus of the children of Jacob from Egypt and also of God's renaming Jacob, Israel. Let us note further, in summing up this Dispensation, which extended from the "call of Abram," to the "Exodus," a period of approximately 430 years, we have the fathers of the "faithful." Nevertheless in Abraham's descendants righteousness waned. Isaac was a peaceful and a good man, but did not measure up to his father. Jacob, Isaac's son, who succeeded to the birthright, had to flee from home, because he took away his brother Esau's blessing. The twelve sons of Jacob, with the exception of Joseph, all greatly degenerated from the parent stock. Therefore, this dispensation ended with all of Abraham's descendants working as slaves under bondage in the brick-yards of Egypt.

Thus, four times in the Book of Genesis, God's plans for the human race seem to be frustrated by the "serpent." First, by the "fall" in the "garden"; second, by the "flood"; third, by the "confusion at Babel"; and fourth, by the "captivity in Egypt."

Brother William Root

FRAGMENTS

"Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost." John 6:12. Many poor folks would be very thankful for the fragments of food and clothing that other people waste. When tempted to extravagance, think of the thousands of poor.

The Lord can work miracles in our lives too. We should gather up the fragments of privileges and opportunities. Hills are composed of individual grains of sand gathered up. What immense hills of blessing for ourselves and for others may be heaped, if we simply gather up the fragments of time to pray, to read the Word, to pass a smile or helpful word to another. Even a warm hand on a shoulder or head in passing by carries blessing. Waste is a crime. Haste makes waste. Gathered pennies result in pounds. Gathered moments result in hours. Gathered fragments filled twelve baskets.

Brother C. L. Frost

Kansas City, Missouri



The Door of Faith is still open. God shut the door to the Ark, with the faithful few inside. The five foolish virgins found themselves on the outside when the door was shut. How sad to be on the wrong side of the door!

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

He was baptized into the Church of the Brethren at an early age and transferred his membership to the Dunkard Brethren about 1928. He served faithfully in the ministry and Eldership for over sixty years. Services were conducted at the Church of the Brethren in Christiansburg, Virginia, February 22, 1979, by Elder Jacob Ness, York, Pennsylvania and K. E. Richardson, Roanoke, Virginia.

The family wishes to express their deepest appreciation for the kindness shown during his illness and death.

NEWS ITEMS

NOTICE

All queries from District Meetings and all Board Reports that are to be included in the Business Program for General Conference should be in my hands by April 15, 1979.

General Conference Writing Clerk
Elder Harley Flory
R. 4, Defiance, Ohio 43512
Phone (419) 497-3953

PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation plans Pre-Easter Services April 11 through 15. There will be services each evening with afternoon services on Saturday. Our Lovefeast will be that evening.

Bro. Harley Flory of Defiance, Ohio will be the special speaker. We invite all who can to attend these meetings.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Lord willing, the Englewood Congregation will engage in a two week Revival Meeting; April 15 through April 29 with Bro. Allen Eberly of Ephrata, Pennsylvania as our evangelist.

Pray for these meetings that the Spirit might direct our Brother to speak out against the sins of the people, that souls might be saved, and we as a Christian people might be edified.

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Congregation enjoyed another revival meeting from August 27 through September 3 with Bro. Jacob Ness of York, Pennsylvania as our Evangelist. Although none were added to the Church at this time, the seed has been sown.

We were happy to have those from other congregations come and enjoy the Lovefeast and meetings with us. We were happy Sis. Fern and Duane could be with us also. May the Lord bless our Evangelists as they continue to preach the Word in these trying days.

Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

OBITUARIES

RUTH BAKER

Sister Ruth L. Baker was born November 28, 1902. She passed away November 23, 1978 at the age of nearly 76 years. She was born in Stark County, Ohio and spent her entire life there. She was the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Aaron Beltz, a Deacon in the Orion Congregation. She accepted Christ at an early age. She married Louis Baker, who passed away a number of years ago. There were no children. She had no close living relatives. She lived alone and passed away at her home.

The funeral was conducted at the Swigart Funeral Home, in Canal Fulton, Ohio, by Bro. George Replogle. The final resting place was Mudbrook Cemetery, Jackson Township, Ohio.

WILLIAM MANGUS

Brother William A. Mangus was born March 3, 1889 and passed away January 7, 1979 at the age of nearly 90 years. He spent a good part of his life near Greentown, Ohio. He was a blacksmith. He was a member of the Orion Congregation. He married Lottie Dulabahn, but had no children. She is a survivor.

The funeral was conducted in the Howard Hecker Funeral Home in Uniontown, Ohio by Craig Brown of the Brethren Church. The final resting place was Mt. Peace Cemetery, Hartville, Ohio. He was a veteran of the First World War but did not take up arms.

ROSCOE REED

Elder Roscoe Quinter Evans Reed, son of Humphrey M. and Minnie Alice (Altizer) Reed, was born in Floyd County, Virginia, August 24, 1893 and departed this life February 20, 1979, at the age of 85 years, 5 months and 26 days.

He was married in September, 1916 to Ora Ethel Dulaney who preceded him in death in 1955. To this union were born five sons and three daughters. One son and one daughter preceded him in death in infancy. Surviving are: Alice Leah, Salem, Virginia; Nelson Reed, Santa Barbara, California; Carl Reed, Grandview, Missouri; Harold Reed, Roanoke, Virginia; Ord Reed, Riner, Virginia and Inez Reed, Roanoke, Virginia. Twenty-nine grandchildren; thirty-six great-grandchildren; three sisters, Mrs. Bertha Spradling, Roanoke, Virginia; Mrs. Margaret Craun, Camp Springs, Maryland; Mrs. Minnie Smith, Roanoke, Virginia; and three brothers, Horace Reed, Eagle Rock, Virginia; D. Paul Reed, Riner, Virginia; Hayes Reed, Modesto, California. One brother preceded him in death. In September, 1959, he was married to Bertie M. Altizer who survives, along with his step-son, Edward Altizer, Radford, Virginia and his step-daughter, Beatrice Blue, Tucson, Arizona.

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Lester Fisher
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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVII

APRIL 15, 1979

NO. 8

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

LIFT YOUR GLAD VOICES

Lift your glad voices in triumph on high,
For Jesus hath risen, and man shall not die;
Vain were the terrors that gathered around Him,
And short the dominion of death and the grave.

He burst from the fetters of darkness that bound Him,
Resplendent in glory, to live and to save;
Loud was the chorus of angels on high,
The Savior hath risen, and man shall not die.

Glory to God, in full anthems of joy,
The being He gave us death cannot destroy;
Sad were the life we may part with tomorrow,
If tears were our birthright, and death were our end.

But Jesus hath cheered the dark valley of sorrow,
And bade us, immortal, to Heaven ascend;
Lift then your voices in triumph on high,
For Jesus hath risen, and man shall not die.

- Henry Ware, Jr.

AMNESTY

During a recent strike, one of the impediments to the ending of the strike was the question of amnesty. The workers who had quit work and disrupted the normal affairs of their community, wanted to be assured of retaining their old jobs and of receiving no punishment for their part in the dispute. They were in effect admitting that they had done wrong but they did not want to be penalized for their actions. They were asking for amnesty.

The word, "amnesty," which is originally from Greek, means "forgetful." Thus one who receives amnesty does not receive the penalty due him because his deed is forgotten.

Public officials occasionally grant amnesty. They do it, sometimes, as a means of righting wrongs, when a person has been unjustly condemned. At other times, they grant amnesty to end labor disputes or other disruptions. Their granting of amnesty is a political act, so their "forgetfulness" is only according to law, not the actual condition of their minds.

Although men may grant amnesty, yet they often remember. When God offers amnesty, His forgetfulness is total. There is no deeper sea than the "sea of God's forgetfulness." God not only grants amnesty but actually offers it to mankind. There are relatively few who ever receive amnesty from the government, but all need God's amnesty.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23. Instinctively, men know they are not equal to God, because they are not perfect. Because of sin, men are imperfect. Their imperfection marks them as being inferior to God and undeserving

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of the glory that belongs to God. Sins may be "small" or "great" but each one separates men from perfection.

The Word of God also warns us, "For the wages of sin is death..." Sin, imperfection and faults can be attributed to man and there is a penalty for them. Just as men look forward, from time to time, to receiving compensation for their work, they also can anticipate a payday for their sins. The wages of sin are the harshest of all penalties. Because sin is completely foreign to Him, it can never please God; it is worthy of the punishment of death.

We know already that, "... the wages of sin is death...", but God does not stop there, "... but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." God has established a plan so men can receive a grant of amnesty. This plan was set up as a gift from God to man. Like any other gift it must be accepted by one for whom it is intended if it is to do him any good. We can not conceive of a gift being refused; especially a gift of eternal life, yet it is rejected by most to whom it is offered and many do not even know of its existence. Whether through ignorance, pride or too-great self-sufficiency many are rejecting this greatest of all gifts.

When public officials offer amnesty it is generally at very little cost to themselves. It requires only the signing of a legal document. But God paid dearly for the amnesty offered to sinners. He gave His Son. Sin is worthy of the severest judgment. A just God could not overlook that fact. Jesus, who was sinless, bore the sins of mankind upon Himself on the cross. He became the substitute for each person who will accept Him as his substitute. He not only sits as judge of sinners but He provides the way of escape from His just penalty for sin. When Jesus becomes the substitute for a sinner, God "forgets" that man's due penalty. Instead of death, eternal life becomes the future of that man.

The acceptance of Jesus as the substitute is a matter of faith (believing that what Jesus did was for the sake of each), repentance (a sorrow for those sins that would rightly cost one the price of eternal separation from God and a determination, by God's help to live a godly life), baptism (the outward form of being washed in water that represents the cleansing effect of the Blood of Christ). At the fulfillment of this plan, the Holy Ghost enters to make His abode within, that He might direct the Christian into a life pleasing to God.

By forming this plan, God showed man how to take advantage of His forgetfulness. He offers amnesty. But if His offer is not accepted, His memory will be all-to-clear on the Judgment Day, when He remembers the sins and imperfections of those who rejected His offer of amnesty. For them that payday of sin will be as He has promised — death.

Are you willing to accept His forgetfulness?

SPRING

O Thou, Creator of Spring
The fulfillment of hope
After a long, cold winter.
With great anticipation
We watch,
And wait,
And hope . . .
Thou, God, hast never failed us.

The snow always vanishes;
The sap flows, bringing new life
And foliage to the trees;
The crocuses bloom again,
The mushrooms appear.
Long did your people wait
For the Promised One.
Thou, God, didst not fail them.

And today new life flows
Into sinsick souls;
And we can sing praise
Because the resurrection was
More than a promise:
Jesus lives!
And because He lives,
I, Too Shall Live!

— D. J. Cleveland

Used by permission

Selected by Sister Sylvia Parker

THE CHRISTIAN'S CROSS

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Matt. 16:24.

To the rich young ruler, Jesus said, "... Come, take up the cross, and follow me." Mark 10:21b.

"And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me." Matt. 10:38.

What is the Christian's cross? Jesus spoke of it several times, attaching great importance to it. It is a wilful act, because we take it up. It is a direct command, not something left to choice. Jesus also said, "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it." Matt. 16:25. This indicates

complete self-denial, so can we not conclude that the Christian's cross is the one on which self is crucified?

Jesus commanded, in this order, to deny self, take up the cross, then follow Him. He also said that those who don't are not worthy of Him. Why? Jesus gave all that He had to give, when He died on the Cross for us. Is it unreasonable then that He has asked us to give all that we have to give? "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Rom. 12:1. It is only reasonable then for us to give all that we have to give, offering ourselves to do God's will. With God first, others next, and ourselves last, we can then serve God acceptably.

Jesus died once for all. He bore our sins in His own body, but it was not our sins which were crucified. Jesus Himself was crucified, and our old man with Him. "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." Rom. 6:6. When self (our old man) is crucified, a life of service follows. It is a life of consecration and dedication — not to self anymore — but to God. It is a life of seeking to follow Christ in everything.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17. A Christian must take up his cross daily — it is a new way of life. There are new attitudes, new desires and new goals, with the supreme motive being to please God. The old attitudes and desires were self-centered, but now self is being crucified. "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." Gal. 5:24. Some selfish desires are slow to die, but die they will if you will surrender them all to Christ.

"If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:26-27. When we come to Christ, He must be first in our lives. We dare not love some other person more than Christ anymore than we dare to love ourselves more than Christ. We cannot be a disciple if we do not love Him first and foremost, if we do not bear our cross and follow Jesus.

We must pass the love test, the sacrifice test, and the service test. This is all part of the Christian's cross, for we cannot love as we please, live as we please, nor treat others as we please. You may think putting up with a cranky neighbor is a cross, but really, your cross is when you would like to retaliate and that desire must be crucified so love can take over. When love takes over, self has been denied, then you've truly begun to bear your cross and serve God.

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Gal. 2:20. No matter how noble your desires, you can't live the Christian life without help. It is Christ living in you Who makes it possible for you to bear your cross and live for Him. He makes it possible for you to be pleasant and to please Him, even when you are faced with many aggravating and irritating circumstances. Jesus first bore His own cross; now He helps you bear yours.

"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." Rom. 8:13. The key to success in the Christian life and in bearing the Christian's cross is not in your own will power. It is not in mere self-denial, either. As a Christian, you must depend on the Spirit for guidance and power to do what you should. Bearing the Christian's cross brings death to self, but life to your soul. When you are moved by your love for the Lord and your desire to please Him, it won't seem like a cross, for you will have peace in your heart. Which will it be for you — selfishness and spiritual death, or self-denial and spiritual life?

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

A NEW CREATURE

J. H. Moore

Every person born into the kingdom becomes a new creature in Christ Jesus. In the baptism of water and of the Spirit there is a putting off of the old man and a putting on of the new man (Col. 3:10). It is a burial of the old man of sin, and the coming forth of the new man. It is the act of putting on Christ in the rite of holy baptism (Gal. 3:27), and we are told that "if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away" (II Cor. 5:17). There is a new heart, a renewed spirit, and a new purpose of life. On entering the kingdom, he starts as a newborn babe; he grows as a new man, being a new creature, spiritually speaking, a new creation, begotten by the Word of Truth. Fed on the sincere milk of the Word, he lives a new and different life. The things he once hated he will now love, and the things he once loved he will now hate. He thus lives and grows until the full stature in Christ Jesus is reached.

Selected from New Testament Doctrines
by Brother Lynn H. Miller

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"NO ONE TO HELP ME!"

JOHN 5:1-16

Near Jerusalem there was a pool of water where people came to be healed. It was called the pool of Bethesda. It had five porches where all kinds of sick people waited till they could see a movement in the water. At a certain time of the year an angel went into the pool and stirred up the water. Whoever stepped first into the pool after the moving of the water was healed of whatever disease he had.

A certain man was there who had been crippled for thirty-eight years. He was lying on a bed and waiting for the water to move. He was hoping to be healed but every time some other person got into the water first.

Jesus came to this place and saw the man waiting to be healed. He said to him, "Do you want to be made whole?" The man answered him, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool, but while I am coming, another steps down before me. There's no one to help me!"

Jesus felt sorry for this man and said, "Rise, take up thy bed and walk." Right away the man was healed. He was completely well again. I'm sure he was a happy man. Thirty-eight years is a long time to be crippled.

It was the Sabbath Day when Jesus healed the man. There were always those who criticized Jesus. They said to the man, "It's not lawful for you to carry your bed on the sabbath." The man answered them, "He that healed me, told me to take up my bed and walk." Then the Jews said, "Who told you to take up your bed and walk?" The man who was healed didn't know who Jesus was and Jesus had walked away. Afterward Jesus returned and said to the man, "Behold, you are whole: sin no more lest a worse thing come unto you." Then the man told the Jews that it was Jesus, then they persecuted Jesus and sought for an occasion to kill Him because he had healed a man on the sabbath. How narrow minded can people get?

The man thought there was no one to help him but Jesus came to him. It was a wonderful day for that man when he could walk again like other people. Jesus is a friend in a time of need. When you think no one cares ask Jesus to help you for He has said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

Brother Rudy Cover

A CALL TO REMEMBRANCE

"Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands." II Tim. 1:6.

There are many calls to remembrance in the Bible. This one by the aged Apostle Paul to the younger man Timothy is very tender and appealing.

Paul knew that his life on earth was swiftly drawing to its close. Some day soon the guard would come to take him to the place of execution. He longed for Timothy, "My dearly beloved son", (verse 2) and fondly hoped to see him again before he died.

But a deeper chord than that of personal affection is struck here. Timothy was most precious to Christ and to His Church because of his God-given gift. Paul is saying, "My hands were upon you when this gift was given." Both Paul and Timothy were vividly aware of what took place at that time.

Paul had urged Timothy to remember the unfeigned faith of his Grandmother and Mother. Their loving, faithful prayers for him were largely rewarded when Timothy received this gift of God for the ministry of the Word.

The stirring-up of Timothy's gift might well make him a target for the Roman and Jewish persecutors. It might well cost him his life. But Timothy had a gift from God that blessed Christians wherever he went. Churches prospered under his ministry and sinners were warned to flee the wrath of God by believing on Jesus and obeying His Word.

Timothy carefully preserved this letter after Paul was gone and no doubt often refreshed his memory with it. The memories they both had shared would ever remind him to continue to stir up his gift to forward the Gospel of Christ.

When strength fails in old age the mind is left with a host of memories. A loss of memory is threatened. How is age to cope with an increasingly faulty memory? Is it true that as long as there is life there is hope? Is there some thing we can do to retain happy, hopeful memories in our old age?

Sadly, we have heard the wail, "I don't want to remember. I want to forget." Also some poor soul's thinking out loud, "If I could only be sure that death would end everything, I'd be glad to die." Someone has said, "The devil has no happy old people."

Brethren used to pray for a peaceful hour in which to die, also that their last days would be their best.

The Bible is the Christian's standby in old age. It's truth in Jesus is written upon the "tables of the heart," and is designed for our comfort in our last days. We will not wait for the end to avail ourselves of this blessing. May we be permitted to call to re-

membrance the power of the Gospel in our past life, in these last fleeting days on earth.

We do well to cultivate our best memories and to search them for Holy Spirit revealings and teachings. There is much to be remembered and by remembering to help us to live each day to its fullest.

Much of teaching and of learning is accomplished by repetition. Jesus' words are "spirit and they are life." In their daily remembrance we can still be experiencing and living new memories to put with the older ones.

Love is the greatest abiding factor of life, and first love is most precious. Christian parental love is a treasure beyond words to express. But the dearest and best is always the new first love for Christ, and with it a gift for serving Him.

"For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance." Rom. 11:29. Their bestowal leads to lowly, lowly paths of service. One older Christian, now gone, confided, "I always liked to shovel, and raised my family that way." Another, "I always liked to wash dishes." There is no honest labor, no matter how lowly, that cannot be faithfully done to God's glory. And if indeed called to some ministry of the Word, if only to small children, God's blessing will follow this gift when STIRRED up to use.

With Paul's call to remembrance, there was also a call to stir up the gift of God. Can this be done in old age? The gift was given to fill and to meet a need. In possession of the gift, we were shown the need. We ask ourselves, "Is there still this need? What does the Holy Spirit bring to mind of human need? Are we still ready to follow His leading? Old Age must not retire from Bible teaching and Holy Spirit control."

There is still work to be done in our area of the vineyard of the Lord. A living witness to our Lord must continue until life's end.

If unable in body, may we be inclined to pray about it. The greatest need of every human is for salvation of the soul. Near and dear ones come to mind; neighbors and friends. As the Holy Spirit leads, let us pray. Our own old age will be sweetened as we remember to stir up this gift of God.

Your Brother in Christ
James D. Cover



We dishonor God's name when we call Him our Father but act like orphans.

CULTS

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Christian Science, founded by Mary Baker Eddy, is an affront to the conservative Christian. It is not involved in preaching the Gospel of Christ and denies the existence of evil, sin, sickness, and even death itself. The average Christian Science member need not repent from sin. He can remain oblivious to the faith of the blood of the Lamb, which Mrs. Eddy discounted entirely in its usual Biblical application. Their theology prohibits acceptance of the vicarious atonement of our Lord and denies eternal retribution for those who reject Christ as the Lamb of God. This cult is growing rapidly and is one of the most dedicated enemies of the traditional Christian faith.

The founder of this organization was a three-time-loser in marriage. It was one of Mrs. Eddy's associates, Phineas Quimby, who came up with the basic principles upon which she built her faith. "Dr. Quimby was for many years a professional mesmerist before he became interested in using hypnosis and suggestion for curing certain diseases. He was the one who coined the terms, "Christian Science" and "the science of the Christ."

As is typical in all cults, its leader Mrs. Eddy made a lot of money from her church. She used almost none of it for charitable causes.

One of Mrs. Eddy's Chairmen of the Publication Committee of the church and President of the Mother Church in Boston swore under oath that he didn't know of any healing ever having been done by her. Additional reports document the fact that she never healed as she claimed, could not heal medically diagnosed, organic diseases when challenged, and never dared to put her "powers" to an open test. To top this off, she had medical care, both doctors and dentists, herself in her later years and utilized morphine as a painkiller for her various "attacks."

The Bible clearly teaches us that Satan's emissaries can duplicate miracles. Could this be happening with this group? Certainly a religion that denies both the authority of the Scriptures and the deity of Christ is not inspired by God.

The following quotes from Christian Science materials will further relate their basic beliefs. 1. Relative to Genesis 2:7, they write "... Is it the truth? Or is it a lie, concerning man and God? It must be the latter..." 2. The theory of three persons in one God suggests heathen gods, rather than the one ever-present I AM. 3. "God equals Principle, Life, Truth, Love, Soul, Spirit, Mind." 4. On the Virgin Birth of Christ, "A portion of God could not enter corporeal mortal man; neither could His feelings be reflected by Him, or God would be manifestly finite, lose the deific character,

and become less than God." 5. "A mere request that God will heal the sick has no power to gain more of the divine presence than is always at hand," they say to counter the Doctrine of Miracles. 6. On the Atonement, "The material blood of Jesus was no more efficacious to cleanse from sin when it was shed upon the accursed tree than when it was flowing in His veins, as He went daily..." 7. "His disciples believed Jesus dead while He was hiding in the sepulchre, whereas He was alive..." 8. On the Ascension, "As the reward for His faithfulness He would disappear to material sense, in that change which has since been called the Ascension." 9. "There was never a moment in which evil was real" is said of Satan. 10. Is Heaven for real? They say, "Heaven is harmony... infinite bliss... Heaven is the reign of Divine Science." 11. They go on, "Man as God's idea is already saved with an everlasting salvation", "Man originated not from dust, materially, but from Spirit, spiritually", and so forth.

Again, we can counter these untruths with the Bible: On the authority of the scriptures: II Tim. 3:16, John 10:35, Matthew 24:35. On the Doctrine of Sin: Romans 3:23, I John 1:10. The Trinity and the Death of Christ: Revelation 1:7, 8, 16; John 1:1. The Personality of the Holy Spirit: Luke 12:12; Acts 13:2. The Virgin Birth and Miracles of Jesus: Mark 1:32-34; Luke 1:30-38. The Atonement, Death and Resurrection of Christ: Matthew 26:28; Colossians 1:20; Romans 5:6-8. The Doctrine of Eternal Retribution: Matthew 13:42, 50; Luke 3:17. The Doctrine of Christian Prayer: Philippians 4:6; Luke 18:1; I Thess. 5:17. These are but a few scriptures that document the real truth and will help you to refute Christian Science. Memorize them and defend the Gospel. The Bible teaches us that the "doctrine of demons" will multiply in the last times and this is sound evidence indeed that the coming of our Lord draws nigh.

Brother Leonard Wertz

THE WILL OF GOD

In the Lord's prayer, we pray, "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." Is this what we are seeking and laboring for? Have we whole heartily accepted the holy will of God? "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind and prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Christ said, "Not my will but thine be done."

"And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfill all my will." Acts 13:22. "And when he would not be

persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done." Acts 21:14. "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." John 7:17. "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." Eph. 5:17.

It is God's will that we be true and honest and separate from the evil fashions of the world, abstaining from all appearance of evil and sinful lusts. If we make any changes it should be for the better, growing in the grace and knowledge of our Saviour. "For God hath put into their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled." Rev. 17:17. "Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second." Heb. 10:7, 9.

Christians have renounced Satan with all the sinful pleasures of the world. "For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men." I Pet. 2:15. "Not with eye service, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart." Eph. 6:6. "Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish." Matt. 18:14. When facing crucifixion, Christ said, "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine be done."

"Which were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:13. "I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me." John 5:30. Do we realize that by ourselves we can do nothing but through His will we can be victorious?

Christ was willing in all things that God's will be done. "And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever." I John 2:17. Our determination should be for the better. If we draw nigh unto the Lord, He will draw nigh unto us. Are we laboring for a Church, as Christ wants it, without blemish not having spot or wrinkle? We believe in being separate from the world and not going back and uniting with the fashions of the world. God is calling for a separate people. "Not with eye-service, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. Eph. 6:6. To please God our robes must be washed and be made white in the blood of the Lamb. "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding." Col. 1:9.

Christ, our great Teacher, taught by example and precept. By following His doctrine, we can be true to God's will. "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:38-40.

As we have referred to various writers of the saving Gospel of Truth and Righteousness, it should be our aim and desire for perfection in this life. "For ye have need of patience that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise." Heb. 10:36. Our duty is to be faithful and true to God's will always. "Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." Heb. 13:21.

Brother J. F. Marks
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NEWS ITEMS

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Congregation will hold their Spring Lovefeast meeting, April 28 and 29 with the Lovefeast on Saturday evening. Services on Sunday also.

Come worship with us and enjoy sweet fellowship together.
Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The Mechanicsburg Dunkard Brethren Church plans to hold revival from May 6 to 13, 1979 with Brother Berton Smith as our evangelist. Pray for us that we may enjoy victory in the camp.

Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing we are planning to have our Spring Lovefeast service on Sunday, May 6. All are invited to come and enjoy the day with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.



You can't push yourself ahead by patting yourself on the back.

OBITUARY

ROBERT HEARN

Bro. Robert M. Hearn, born December 10, 1944, the son of the late Sis. Fannie Hearn and R. Elwood Hearn, died at the age of 34 years and 1 month. He was killed in a construction accident January 10, 1979. The bulldozer he was unloading from a lowboy trailer slid off and he was pinned against a tree.

He is survived by his wife, Wanda (Longenecker) Hearn and four children, sons, Terry and Barry and daughters, Kelly and Tammy. He also is survived by his father, R. Elwood Hearn of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania; one brother Fred, of Richland, Pennsylvania; four sisters, Fay Ankerbrand of Greencastle, Pennsylvania; Mable Degler of Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania; and Wanda and Wilma of Mohrsville, Pennsylvania.

He united with the Dunkard Brethren Church at the age of sixteen and at the time of death was a member of the Bethel Congregation.

Funeral services were held in the Frystown Dunkard Brethren Church, January 14, to a large audience of friends and relatives. Services were in charge of Elders James Kegerreis and Laverne Keeney. Interment was in the adjoining cemetery.

WHEN I MUST LEAVE YOU!

When I must leave you
for a little while,
Please do not grieve and shed wild tears
And hug your sorrow
to you through the years,
But start out bravely
with a gallant smile;
And for my sake and in my name
Live on and do all things the same,
Feed not your loneliness
on empty days,
But fill each waking hour in useful ways,
Reach out your hand
in comfort and in cheer
And I in turn will comfort you
and hold you near;
And never, never be afraid to die,
For I am waiting
for you in the sky!

Helen Steiner Rice

We wish to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for all the cards, acts of kindness, love gifts and most of all the prayers of all who remembered us during this sudden time of sorrow. We trust by some way we might all realize the brevity of life and commit our will to the ways of the Lord. It seems there are such trying times that lie ahead of us. We believe by faith and a continuation of prayers by our beloved Sisters and Brethren that again the sun may shine.

Though life will never be the same here on this earth, we look forward to meeting our beloved companion when we meet on Yonder Shore. We ask that you might continue to remember us in your prayers on the behalf of our small family. May God richly bless each one for the effort they have put forth.

In Christian Love,
Sister Wanda Hearn and Family
The Hearn Family

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY 1979

May 6 — The Valley of Vision. Isaiah 22:1-25 (21:1-17).

May 13 — MOTHER'S DAY. I Samuel 1:1-28.

May 20 — Tyre. Isaiah 23:1-18 (24:1-23).

May 27 — The Lord's Salvation. Isaiah 25:1-12; 21:1-19.

QUESTIONS:

- (1) What is the key of the house of David? Isa. 22:22.
- (2) What was the vow that Hannah made to the Lord? I Sam. 1:11. Did she keep it? I Sam. 1:24-28.
- (3) How long was Tyre to be forgotten? Isa. 23:15.
- (4) After the seventy years who is going to benefit from the merchandise of Tyre? Isa. 23:18.
- (5) In the day of the Lord what will His people say? Isa. 25:9. Do you think we are in that day?



It takes a lot of cheek to hold up a narrow mind.

Apology is often a good way to have the last word.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR MAY, 1979

DELIVERANCE

Memory Verse: Gen. 9:2

And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hands are they delivered.

Tues. 1 - Gen. 9:1-17

Wed. 2 - Gen. 14:1-24

Thur. 3 - Gen. 32:1-32

Fri. 4 - Gen. 37:1-30

Sat. 5 - Gen. 42:1-20

Memory Verse: Gen. 14:20

And blessed be the most high God which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

Sun. 6 - Gen. 42:21-38

Mon. 7 - Gen. 45:1-28

Tues. 8 - Ex. 2:1-25

Wed. 9 - Ex. 3:1-22

Thur. 10 - Ex. 5:1-23

Fri. 11 - Ex. 12:1-30

Sat. 12 - Ex. 18:1-27

Memory Verse: Gen. 45:7

And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

Sun. 13 - Ex. 23:20-33

Mon. 14 - Lev. 26:1-20

Tues. 15 - Lev. 26:21-46

Wed. 16 - Num. 21:1-16

Thur. 17 - Num. 21:17-35

Fri. 18 - Num. 35:9-34

Sat. 19 - Deut. 1:22-46

Memory Verse: Ex. 18:9

And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the Lord had done to Israel, whom he had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.

Sun. 20 - Deut. 2:16-37

Mon. 21 - Deut. 3:1-29

Tues. 22 - Deut. 5:1-33

Wed. 23 - Deut. 9:1-29

Thur. 24 - Deut. 19:1-21

Fri. 25 - Deut. 20:1-20

Sat. 26 - Deut. 31:1-30

Memory Verse: Jos. 10:8

And the Lord said unto Joshua, Fear them not: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee.

Sun. 27 - Jos. 2:1-24

Mon. 28 - Jos. 7:1-26

Tues. 29 - Jos. 8:1-29

Wed. 30 - Jos. 9:1-27

Thur. 31 - Jos. 10:1-27

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

TO A YOUNG MOTHER

You stand encircled by your little world:
Your children close about you - keep them so,
For swifter than the wind upon the hills
The fleet years go.

They are so small, their sensitive young minds
Will photograph you as you are today,
And, oh, to make a shining imprint there,
Teach them to pray.

Put the staff of faith within their hands,
That later they may climb each rocky slope
With ease, and give them courage for that climb,
And give them hope.

O dear young Mother, give your children Christ,
And you will give them wealth beyond belief.
Your children are about you now - make haste -
The time is brief!

- Grace Noll Crowell

ONE DAY A YEAR

Mother's Day is an annual holiday with a very noble purpose. Mothers, whether living or dead, are worthy of our respect and honor on this day. The demands are great that children make upon their mother, even before their birth. At birth, mother must pass very near the "valley of the shadow of death," to bring the new life into the world. Her days and often her nights are devoted to the care of her family. Her help and advice are continually needed. Her services are in demand even after the family have left the parental home.

These duties are true of all mothers generally. In the Christian home, the mother has even greater duties and opportunities. A mother has great opportunities to teach and train her children the values and practice of the Christian life. Although all mothers are worthy of their families' honor, the Christian mother is doubly deserving. She is preparing her family not only for the few short years of this life but also for Eternity. A mother who has fulfilled her God-given task of physically and Spiritually training her family well deserves the little gifts and bouquets that will be given her this Mother's Day.

Mother's Day, although it has been celebrated less than one hundred years, is established as one of a number of holidays set aside annually to honor special people or occasions. If these days bring forth an increased honor and respect for those intended, they have served their purpose. However, if these days, such as Mother's Day, Father's Day or Thanksgiving Day, become a substitute for daily fulfillment of our responsibilities then they may

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have failed in their purpose. When one day is set aside to commemorate such an occasion, there is the danger that we may come to feel that by giving gifts or expressing serious emotions on that day will relieve us of our responsibility throughout the year. Mother's Day is but one day of the year. Will Mother be ignored, disobeyed or uncared-for the other three hundred and sixty four days of the year? That is the danger we must guard against when regarding a special day like Mother's Day.

In the Ten Commandments, God required that children would honor their parents. "Honor thy father and mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Ex. 20:12. Paul urges the command's fulfillment. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth." Eph. 6:1-3. Jesus warned that obedience must be from the heart. He spoke of the Pharisees, who were supposedly so careful about fulfilling the Law, yet who disregarded God's law through the establishment and exaltation of their own man-made traditions. They could speak of keeping all the law, including the Fifth Commandment but by their tradition they had effectively destroyed its observance. Their tradition allowed a son to make a gift to the Temple that would free him of any responsibility for his parents when they were in need. Jesus and Paul saw the goodness of God's commandment when carried out rightly. But a danger could be seen in observance of a man-made law that sought to lessen the God-given responsibility of the children. Is there a similar danger in these annual observances? May we, by observing this one day, lure ourselves into feeling less responsible other times?

After the gifts given on Mother's Day have been used or set back and forgotten what will our attitude toward mother be? Will we be seeking other ways to serve and honor her? The greatest honor for a Christian mother is for her children to follow and serve the God she has taught them about. Their lives will not shame her but will be a glory not only to her but to others. A life that glorifies God will reflect honor upon mother, whether living or dead.

This Mother's Day give mother the gift of your heart. Do not give her merely the gifts that are in the advertisements or featured in beautiful displays. Give her the gift of a godly life. In living that kind of life, you will be giving mother more honor than in all the presents and flowers which often become substitutes for daily, faithful obedience and care.

Give mother a living gift. A godly life will be putting a joy in her life as she beholds your service to God. It will also mean an everlasting life for you in the glories of Heaven. There you can be

with that mother who taught you about God and His plan of salvation.

Make this Mother's Day more than one day a year. Make it a daily life that will be a joy to your Mother and your God.

SKEPTICAL SARAH AND OTHERS

The Bible contains the stories of many women; some who were mothers, others who were not. Let's just think for a few moments about several of them and see if we are like any of them. Some had good qualities; some had very bad ones. Decide for yourself which you are like and which you ought to be like.

Envious Eve had everything beautiful and good at her disposal that she could possibly need, yet she wasn't satisfied. She looked, desired and then took of the forbidden fruit. She was envious in the sense that she coveted and took what was not hers. She started a chain of events which has brought sorrow to everyone. Have you ever done this? You were not satisfied with what God gave, so you took matters into your hands, then sorrow resulted. It pays to be careful and not go after everything that the Devil calls your attention to.

Let's think next about Hopeful Hannah. Eli, the priest, misunderstood the distress of her heart and thought she was drunken when she prayed silently. She told him that she was sorrowful and had unburdened her heart to the Lord. Hannah then stopped fasting and was no more sad. See Sam. 1:18. Her heart was now at peace and ready to wait for the Lord to grant her request. Note that she didn't reveal the contents of her prayer. Sometimes a need hurts too much to talk to anyone, except God, about. Hannah asked for a son, which she would give to the Lord. Her son was Samuel. He did serve the Lord, blessing the hearts of many people. What do you think would have happened if Hannah hadn't been hopeful and trusted the Lord completely?

Skeptical Sarah had several problems. First of all, she got in a hurry to have a child, so she gave her maid to Abraham, to receive a child by her. That resulted in Hagar despising Sarah. Then when Sarah was told that she really would have a son of her own, she laughed. How could it be when she was so old? Besides this doubtful laughter, she denied that she had laughed! Certainly it would have seemed impossible to us, too, but we do need to believe God when He speaks to us, even if it does seem impossible. There was discord between the sons of these mothers and there still is between their descendants. It will save us and others so much trouble if we will just believe God and wait on Him.

Harassed Hagar suffered much at Sarah's hand. See Gen. 16. Hagar despised Sarah. Then Sarah was so mean to her that Hagar

fled. Even though her attitude was wrong, God had compassion on Hagar. He talked with her and told her He would bless her. Hagar sorrowed again when Abraham made her and Ishmael both leave. It grieved Abraham to do this, because of his son, but it had to be. Whenever anyone interferes with God's will, it causes suffering, sometimes affecting many generations. The results of your actions seldom affect just you, so be careful what you do.

Rahab, the harlot, became Rahab the Redeemed when she confessed that God is supreme in Heaven and earth and asked for mercy. The mercy promised to her became a reality when Jericho was destroyed. She expressed her faith in God by doing as the spies had instructed her. I believe that she received spiritual redemption, not just physical protection. See Josh. 2:11-14, 6:23-25. She apparently was the mother of Boaz, Ruth's husband (see Matt. 1:5). Rahab's life certainly hadn't been pleasing to God, but when she expressed faith in Him, He cleansed and used her. Our past is not our problem; it's what we do now before God that counts.

Mixed-up Michal started out loving David, but later despised him (I Sam. 18:20, II Sam. 6:16). She saw David leaping and dancing before the Lord in worship and she despised him. Perhaps she didn't understand David's motives, but she shouldn't have criticized him. Because of her rebuke, she was childless (II Sam. 6:23). We don't always understand others and it is wise to be thoughtful and considerate, rather than critical. Our greatest concern should be whether God is pleased or not, not whether someone pleases us.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, had some special qualities which we all need. She was willing to be used by God; she believed He would keep His Word. There were lots of things that she didn't understand, but she didn't question God. She did think much about all that happened, considering or pondering what it all meant. To be faithful and submissive to God brings us peace and contentment. If we are always doubting and arguing, wanting to do things some other way, there will be no peace for us.

There are others whose hearts were right with God, still others whose hearts had turned away from Him. Where do you fit in? "But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part; which shall not be taken away from her." Luke 10:42. Mary had chosen to listen to Jesus, and we need to. With Christ in our lives, we can then be all we should be, in whatever capacity we are serving Him. If you are right with God, stay that way. If you're not, seek Him now. Be as Mary and choose the good part - Jesus. He's all that you need.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE PEARL

When Jesus was teaching the twelve Apostles, He spoke to them in parables. A parable is a simple explanation of truth, that they could understand.

Matt. 13:45-46, "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it." May we consider the preciousness of the Pearl and how it is formed.

In studying this valuable gem we learn that a tiny grain of sand has come into the shell of the oyster. It is a painful intruder. The oyster now begins to build layer upon layer of a plastic like, milky substance that covers the tiny grain of sand. This takes time and persistence. He does not give up the first day, or the second, or third. He must continue his work of patience, to rid himself of this intruder. By and by a pearl is made. It is a thing of wonderful beauty.

The merchantman when seeking goodly pearls knew the value of a real pearl. It is costly. He sold all that he had to buy it.

The True Church is this Pearl of Great Price. Jesus gave His life, dying on the Cross, to purchase our redemption. He made the supreme sacrifice, with great pain and suffering that He might purchase unto Himself this Pearl of Great Price, The Church. May we honour and glorify our Lord.

Sister Sylvia E. Parker
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TIME

Psalms 34:1, "I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth."

Time.

It hangs heavy for the bored, eludes the busy, flies by for the young, and runs out for the aged.

Time.

We talk about it as though it is a manufactured commodity that some can afford, others cannot, some can reproduce, others waste.

We crave it. We hate it. We kill it. We abuse it. Is it a friend? Or an enemy? I suspect we know very little about it. To know it at all and its potential, perhaps we should view it through a child's eyes.

"When I was young, Daddy was going to throw me up in the air and catch me and I would giggle until I couldn't giggle any more, but he had to go to work and there wasn't time."

"When I was young, Mama was going to read me a story and I was going to turn the pages and pretend I could read, but she had to wax the kitchen floor and there wasn't time."

"When I was young, Daddy was going to show me how to make a bird house out of wood, but he had an appointment to have his car tuned up and it took longer than he thought and there was no time."

"When I was young, Grandma and Grandpa were going to come for Christmas to see the expression on my face when I got my first bike, but Grandma didn't know who she could get to feed the dogs and Grandpa didn't like the cold weather, and besides, they didn't have the time."

"When I was young, my Mama was going to listen to me read my essay on "What I Want to be When I Grow Up," but she was in the middle of reading, "Little House on the Prairie," which was one of her favorites and there wasn't time."

"When I was young, my sister was going to build blocks with me, but she always said, 'wait a minute' and soon she was off doing something else and forgot that she did have time."

"When I was older, Dad and I were going fishing one weekend, just the two of us, and we were going to pitch a tent and fry fish with the heads on them like they do in the flashlight ads, but at the last minute he had to fertilize the grass and there wasn't time."

"When I grew up and left home to be married, I was going to sit down with Mom and Dad and tell them I loved them and I would miss them. But Hank (my best man) was honking the horn in front of the house, so there wasn't time.

Selected and Revised

How do we value our time? Do we take time for God, for His Word, for teaching our children right from wrong? Do we have time to play ball with daughter and build blocks for baby brother? Do we have time to show the children a pretty butterfly and tie their shoe?

Take time NOW to tell a friend that you value their friendship of love and all they have done for you. Proverbs 17:17a, "A friend loveth at all times."

Tomorrow's time you may never see so value your time today.

Psalms 62:8, "Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us."

Sister Shirley Frick

TO MY GROWN-UP SON

My hands were busy through the day;
I didn't have much time to play
The little games you asked me to.
I didn't have much time for you.
I'd wash your clothes, I'd sew and cook,
But when you'd bring your picture book
And ask me please to share your fun
I'd say: "A little later, son."
I'd tuck you in all safe at night
And hear your prayers, turn out the light,
The tip-toe softly to the door...
I wish I'd stayed a minute more.
For life is short, the years rush past...
A little boy grows up so fast.
No longer is he at your side
His precious secrets to confide.
The picture books are put away,
There are no longer games to play,
No good-night kiss, no prayers to hear...
That all belongs to yesteryear.
My hands, once busy, now are still.
The days are long and hard to fill.
I wish I could go back and do
The little things you asked me to.

Selected by Sister Mary Keller

CULTS

THE BAHAI

The Baha'i cult started in Persia about 1844. It is the first in this series of articles that is of foreign origin. It was started by Mirza Ali Muhammad, who was murdered by irate Mohammedans in 1850. He believed himself to be one of the great religious leaders of the world. Modern Baha'ism still considers him a great religious leader but he has been replaced by Baha'u'llah, his messianic successor. Baha'u'llah declared that he was the one prophesied by the "Bab" thirteen years earlier to be the "chosen of God", "the promised one of all the prophets."

Baha'i faith is a worldwide religious organization that continues to teach in the tradition of Baha'u'llah. It is active in fifty countries and has a membership of over a million followers. It claims to be the unifier of all religions. The Baha'i temple near Chicago contains the enshrined nine great religious leaders of the world. These include Moses, Christ, Buddha, Confucius, Mohammed,

and so forth (and of course Baha'u'llah!) The Lord Jesus being relegated to being just another teacher in a collection of nine is put down on a level that is carnal and in direct contradiction to the Scriptures which read, "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." Col. 2:9.

Baha'ism is satisfied to embrace all the religions of the world so as to amalgamate their moral and ethical teachings, while also recognizing the credibility of their prophets. John 3:16 tells us that Christ is the "ONLY begotten..."

In this religion God becomes an impersonal force, a being devoid of personality who is only the sum total of all goodness. They deny the doctrine of sin and say that no man is bad or evil. There is nothing that a true Christian can have in common with Baha'i. They categorically reject: the absolute authority of the Bible, the doctrine of the Trinity, the deity of Jesus, the virgin birth, the vicarious atoning death of our Lord, the physical resurrection of Christ, His visible second coming to judge the world, and so forth.

Baha'ism has cloaked itself with Western terminology and imitates some Christian forms and ceremonies so as to appeal to the Western mind.

We can once again refute this cult with the true knowledge of Bible teaching. We need to know the "wonderful words of life" well so we can witness faithfully for Christ.

Our country has become a battleground so far as cults are concerned, with new ones springing up each year. Many of these draw heavily on Oriental sources. We must become familiar with these spreading delusions so we can have a powerful testimony for the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in whom ALONE is eternal life. In Him only can the world find the peace for which it is seeking.

Remember, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Proverbs 16:25.

Brother Leonard Wertz

OUT OF THE ARK OF SAFETY

There are today many out of the ark of safety. No one knows when the Dear Lord will come to claim His chosen ones, who have been born again. They have clean bodies, for all their sins were blotted out in that cleansing stream. They are striving to do His will, working to bring the lost to Christ.

There are two classes who are out of the ark of safety. The first are those who have never come to know Him. They don't realize how much they are missing in this life, for it is short compared to the life hereafter. Jesus offers so much.

Dear ones, won't you come while He is pleading and the door is still open. Accept His plan of Salvation and have your names recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life, from whence no one can remove it. It will remain there as long as you are true to the Lord.

Come and work with the true believers. They are a body of people who love the Lord and are out in His vineyard working to bring the lost to Him. There is so much work to do. The harvest is at hand. The fields are white. The laborers are few. The Lord needs you to go out and help glean the golden grain.

Those of you that are still away from Christ, did you ever stop for one moment when you know he is knocking at the door of your heart and almost think that he is calling your name? He loves every one. He is your friend and mine. He is a wonderful Savior. Is Jesus your Lord?

He suffered so much on that cruel cross for your soul and mine. He came to rescue you and all, who are willing to give Him a place in their lives. Jesus rejoices when one soul comes to Him. I am sure there would be a lot of rejoicing in Heaven if each of us were able only to win our own children to the Lord.

If you will let Him into your life you will become a new creature. As you throw away the things you once loved and start on this new life, you will now be a clean soul before the Lord. This will be a new beginning for you, keep your life pure, work for the saving of souls and in the end a Home in Heaven.

Now the second class who are out of this ark of safety, are those who have been in the ark of safety but have gone back into the world of sin and woe. This is a very sad thing. Once they had come to the Lord, had gone down into that baptismal water, had had their sins forgiven and had made a promise before God and those present to live faithful unto death.

At that time you became a worker in the Lord's vineyard helping to win others for Him. Just now as you read this, will you stop and ask yourself the question, "Just why did I go back out into the world of sin?" You left those of like precious faith for this life, which does not satisfy, and has no hope for a life hereafter, only the few pleasures you feel you receive here.

There still is a chance for you dear ones if you are only willing to humble yourselves and come back to your blessed Savior, before the door is closed. Repent and go to the Lord in prayer and ask Him to forgive you. If you are sincere, He will forgive and receive you back into the ark of safety, where you again can work for Him.

Dear Husband if you have gone back into the world, you are not only responsible for your own soul. Remember, if the children are still at home, then you are responsible before God for leading them back into the world.

In closing, I want to leave a few lines with you about a true story of two brothers. One was a wonderful, Christian man but the other one was out in the world, living in sin. A Revival was going on in the Church. The first pleaded with his brother to go along. But he said, "Brother Dear, not tonight, but I will promise you to go tomorrow night. Give me just this one more night with the gang." But tomorrow never came. He was gone. As the brother stood at his casket, weeping, over and over, he could hear these words, "Tomorrow night." Don't turn the Savior away.

Sister E. M. Alltus

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

PART 7

The Fifth Dispensation is the Dispensation of Law. God's Law was given to the children of Israel, through Moses. His Covenant, known as the Old Testament, was given to a special people. The length of this Dispensation extended from the Exodus to Christ, a period of approximately one thousand four hundred ninety years.

At the close of the fourth Dispensation, the Patriarch Jacob (Israel) called his sons together, offering his curses and blessings upon them. The greatest blessing he pronounced upon any one of them, was his blessing upon Judah, Gen. 49:8-10, "Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a law-giver from between his feet, until Shiloh come (meaning Jesus); and unto him shall the gathering of the people be."

Moses prophesied of Shiloh, as stated by Stephen, the first Christian martyr, in that wonderful message given by him, as recorded in Acts 7:37, "This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear." Through the seed of Judah was to come the promised "Redeemer," offered to the world. Jesus Christ the Son of God, was Israel's promised "Messiah." We believe the salvation of the human race through His own Son to be the Divine purpose of God, from the beginning of the creation of the world.

We learn that, at the beginning of this Dispensation, God had changed Jacob's name to Israel. The children of Israel had greatly multiplied at that time and were oppressed by a new king. They were under great bondage and were made to cry out to the Lord. This new king made a decree that all their male children should be

destroyed. Ex. 1:21-22; Ex. 1:8. In the previous Dispensations, it seems God had allowed man to govern himself on the earth. He now sets about to organize a commonwealth, with laws and regulations and with a visible system of worship.

Also God provided a "Deliverer" for them through His servant Moses. God came to Moses, tested him and sent him to deliver Israel out of their bondage. Pharaoh was obstinate. He did not want to let them go. God also proved Moses and chose his brother Aaron to help him. He revealed the Covenant to him, which He had made to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, who were the fathers before Moses. Not only did he reveal to him His Covenant with the fathers, but He made a special Covenant with the children of Israel. It was a Covenant of Law and Works, which we recognize as the "Old Law," which was done away in Christ.

Let us study this Covenant which He gave to the children of Israel, His chosen people. First He points out to Moses His Covenant with the fathers. Ex. 6:2-8, "And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the Lord: And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them, And I have also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage, wherein they were strangers. And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered my covenant. Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments; And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God: and ye shall know that I am the Lord your God, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. And I will bring you in unto the land, concerning the which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for an heritage; I am the Lord." Here God confirms His Everlasting Covenant to Israel, in regard to their earthly possession and heritage. However, He also made with them a special Covenant, a Spiritual inheritance, which would also be everlasting, through their seed.

This special covenant was their Law, the Law of the Old Testament, which was fulfilled by Christ and vanished away. This is a doctrine which perplexes (many will not accept it, yet today) those who would follow the Ten Commandments for salvation. Yes, there are those, and not a few, who preach and profess that we must keep the Law and the Ten Commandments to be saved in this Christian Dispensation, going back to the Old Testament for salvation. For instance, Sabbatarians do not like to discuss this subject. They try to change the subject and avoid the question.

Why? It is because they cannot find Scripture, that tells what the Old Covenant is, which does not condemn their practice.

No Bible scholar should deny the fact that there are two principal Covenants, the Old and the New, taught in the Bible. Also, we know that God's prophet Jeremiah foretold the coming of the New Covenant, the New Testament. Jer. 31:31-32, "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord."

To be continued

Brother William Root

SING OF SPRING

The sun has turned the corner now
And runs upon its yellow feet,
Steaming horses pull the plow,
And every breeze is blossom sweet.

The robin sings of winter healed,
The grass blades lift a golden tongue,
And, oh, that I like bird or field
Could carol while the year is young.

May heaven give me wit, I pray,
To join this canticle of May,
The brightest music ever heard,
Arising now from field and bird
And soaring high above the past,
To reach the ear of God at last.

- Herbert Merrill

Selected by Sister Ruby Sowers

OBITUARY

RUTH KING

Sister Ruth C. King was born May 25, 1897 in Rouzerville, Pennsylvania and departed this life in the Waynesboro, Pennsylvania Hospital on January 13, 1979.

Her husband, Brother Norman King preceeded her in death on April 14, 1976.

She was a member of the Waynesboro Dunkard Brethren Church for many years. Funeral services were held January 17, 1979 at the Waynesboro Dunkard Brethren Church by Elders James Kegerreis, Jacob Ness and Frank Shaffer. Final resting place was at Price's Church of the Brethren Cemetery, Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.

MOTHER

It seemed we scarcely knew her
In her many years on earth,
Nor realized 'til she had gone,
Her wondrous woman's worth.
Too much she gave, too freely toiled
For others, all the while;
Too much we blindly let her give —
Forgetting thanks or smile.
Now looking back across the years,
Our hearts are wrung with pain,
Remembering the price she paid,
That we - her own - might gain;
She placed no price upon her deeds —
Love prompted every one;
We simply knew she filled our needs,
Until her work was done.
Those toil-worn hands had never meant
So much to us, until,
Upon her quiet breast they lay,
So white, so cold and still;
What service they had done for us
We never paused to say,
Until we missed their ministry —
When she had gone away.
The thin gray hair upon her brow
Was like a halo light,
But we had never known it —
Till she went away that night;
We longed to tell our love, at last,
And how we held her dear,
But, oh, that hour had glided past —
Our words she could not hear!
Heart-breaking tears! At last we saw,
With vision clear and bright,
The beauties of that noble soul
Who went away that night;
With aching hearts we knew, too late,
There never was another
So fine and true the whole way thru
As she whom we called — MOTHER.

Selected by Brother Lester Flora

NEWS ITEMS

1979 GENERAL CONFERENCE DIRECTIONS

The 1979 Dunkard Brethren General Conference will be held at Mission Springs Conference Grounds near Santa Cruz, California, June 2-6.

From Santa Cruz go 3½ miles north on Route 17 to Mt. Hermon Road (turn right at Big Basin sign and cross freeway, Route 17.) Go 1½ miles on Mt. Hermon Road. Turn right on Lockhart Gulch Road and go 1 mile to Mission Springs Conference Grounds. From Los Gatos go south 15½ miles on Route 17 to Mt. Hermon Road. Turn right and proceed as above.

For those coming by bus (Greyhound or Peerless) get off at Camp Evers and phone 335-4280 for transportation to Conference Grounds.

If you come by plane or train be sure to make your own arrangements with members and friends for pick-up when you arrive. San Jose is the nearest airport and depot.

All blankets, linens, towels, washcloths, and soap will be furnished.

Send your reservations to: Brother Rudy Cover, 2034 Robie Ave., Modesto, California 95351 or Brother Henry Walker, 12413 Delaware Road, Hickman, California 95323.

WEST FULTON, OHIO

The Lord willing, the Lovefeast services at West Fulton will be on Saturday, May 19. There will be services during the day, Communion in the evening, services on Sunday.

You are invited to attend these services.

Sister Leola Beck, Cor.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to thank all those who remembered me since I fell and broke my shoulder. I thank the Good Lord I again have the use of my arm and hand. Thanks so much for the prayers, cards, scrap-book, sunshine boxes, and other gifts. Also for your visits. I can only thank you, but May God Bless You!

I moved to my new home March 14. My address is Green Acres, R 6, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325.

Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

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BIBLE MONITOR

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MAY 15, 1979

NO. 10

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH

Up and onward, Christian soldier,
Hear thy Lord's divine command;
Be thou ready when He calls thee
In the foremost ranks to stand.

Up and onward, Christian soldier,
To the conflict and the strife;
God will test thy zeal and courage,
Ere thou enter into life.

Up and onward, be not weary,
Do not lay thy armor down,
Thou must fight the battle bravely,
Ere thy soul can wear a crown.

Up and onward, firm and fearless,
Like the vet'rans of the past;
Then, thro' Him whose grace redeems thee,
Thou shalt overcome at last.

— Sallie Martin

ENCOURAGEMENT

Elijah felt discouraged because he thought he was the last person left who served God. Although the power of God had just recently been displayed when the prophets of Baal had been bested, he had fled when Jezebel threatened to slay him. Alone, afraid and discouraged, he asked God to take his life. Contrary to Elijah's wish, God did not take his life. Instead He strengthened him by telling him that there was yet a remnant, who had not worshipped Baal. Elijah could take heart for he was not really alone. This was soon confirmed to him when he met Elisha who was willing to serve God. Now Elijah knew for sure that he was not alone. He could have fellowship.

We often have feelings comparable to Elijah's. We feel alone and discouraged. As we see a world of darkness and sin around us we wonder if there are any others who have a sincere desire to worship and serve God according to the Bible's precepts. We perhaps feel we may be the very last true believer. Like Elijah we need encouragement.

Elijah had been used by God to gain a victory over the prophets of Baal yet he became discouraged. Do we ever wonder if it pays to do what is right when we see the advancement of the unjust and deceitful? Elijah had questioned why the people halted between two ways. Now it appeared to him that the forces of evil were completely overwhelming him. He wanted to die; he didn't want to be God's spokesman anymore. God encouraged him through the knowledge of His remnant.

One of the greatest encouragements in the Christian life is being

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with others who are serving God. For Christians, Lovefeasts, District Meetings and General Conference provide opportunities for being encouraged. When Brethren assemble, they are encouraged to know that there are others who worship and serve God in the same manner. When we feel like Elijah, it is good to find an "Elisha" who has the same beliefs and practices as ourselves. In being together each is strengthened and encouraged to continue in the Christian walk of life.

We find the encouragement of fellowship not only in special meetings but also in the regular appointments of each congregation. There we find a weekly reminder that there are others willing to be separate from the world. These frequent meetings let us know others have the desire to serve consistently by their faithful attendance at these regular services. We are warned to not forsake the assembling of ourselves together. Very few things should ever interfere to keep us from the Church's appointments. It is not only for our own good that we should attend regularly. Our attendance will be an encouragement to others who are there. If we do not feel our responsibility, others may decide to follow our poor example. The result will soon be the decline and perhaps even dispersal of the whole congregation.

We live in an age devoted to self. Everyone is encouraged to look out, at whatever cost, for himself, to assert himself and to take advantage wherever possible in order to get ahead. As the children of God, our concerns are to be first for God and then others, especially those of the household of faith. Part of our duty toward others lies in our responsibility not only for their physical but also their Spiritual welfare. This may inconvenience us, but our inconvenience will be small compared to the price paid on Calvary. With the current uncertainties and high cost of travel it is easy to remain at home. But what is the value of our Christian commitment if it does not demand sacrifice? We no longer depend on horses and oxen for our travel. Today we have many speedy means of transportation but it seems we are more reluctant to leave our homes in sacrificial, Spiritual service than were our ancestors of a century or two ago.

Travel may be costly and inconvenient but there will be rewards attending the effort. There will be the joy of seeing those of like precious faith in another part of the Lord's moral vineyard. There will be the knowledge that they have been encouraged to continue on despite the moral darkness surrounding them. There will be a continuing witness as each congregation is encouraged to keep the Light burning.

Elijah was not alone although it appeared that way to him. We are not alone either. So we do not discourage ourselves, let us be willing to encourage others through our attendance at Lovefeasts, District Meetings, General Conference and most importantly at the regular appointments of our congregations.

CRABS FOR SUPPER

At an all day sewing session, several children were present. When it became nap time, one girl was not at all happy about it. She wasn't tired and she hadn't been naughty, so why should she have to lie down? She didn't sleep but talked instead, telling us about the company her family expected that evening. The one who had made all the little ones lie down asked if she could come for supper, too. Then she said, "She (the little girl) probably doesn't want me to come — an old crab like me." A few moments later, someone asked the little girl what they were having for supper, she then named several foods. After a thoughtful pause, she added, "and — crabs!"

Needless to say, she had the details a little confused at that point, but I wonder — are we ever like her and have "crabs" for supper? No, they are not the kind you eat. They just sit at your table and grumble and growl and look irritable. You may have one or more of them living with you; maybe one of them is you. These crabs possibly have been crabs all day long. Somewhere along the line, the Christian spirit has been lost and an unpleasant spirit has taken over. Has this ever happened to you?

"But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison." James 3:8. A crabby, unpleasant spirit is usually manifested by an equally unpleasant tongue. Too often it is directed at innocent people who become the victims of your sour attitude, your stinging (and unnecessary!) criticism. How often are you the crab that someone has for supper? Christians ought not to be crabs, whether it's for supper or at other times. Maybe a good look in the mirror — the mirror of God's Word — will help you to be pleasant and kind as you should be.

What sort of spirit should a Christian have? I Pet. 3:4 says, "But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price." A meek and quiet spirit does not have a biting tongue. Such a spirit does not pick others apart and complain about everything. This spirit radiates from within; it is not just a superficial thing to be turned on and off as it suits you. Having a meek and quiet spirit is evidence that the Holy Spirit is at work in your life.

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." II Pet. 1:4. This verse indicates that we can have a part of the divine nature. But isn't that asking alot of us, when we are not divine? A divine nature is not at all like our human nature. It is pure; it is directed by love. We can't have this purity and love on our own, but power is available to us through Christ so we can have the nature God wants us to have. The things that pertain unto life and godliness (see II Pet. 1:3) are the things which change our nature. Then these same things will give us the pleasant spirit that we should have.

"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hyprocrisy." James 3:17. This is the way we should communicate with others. No one should have to endure our bad moods and our unkindnesses. This verse indicates that being kind and considerate, honest and fair are marks of wisdom. There is no wisdom in being crabby and unkind, nor in being inconsiderate and selfish.

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up. Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil." I Cor. 13:4-5. As we would say it, love is longsuffering, kind, not envious. Love does not boast of self, nor does love put self up on a pedestal, from where others are viewed with a surly attitude. Love does not think that just because someone else is a part of the same household or Church that someone should put up with whatever mood one is in. Love definitely affects our conduct and our attitudes toward others. You simply cannot be a crab and really love.

"For I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God." Psalms 43:5b. Without the Lord, your countenance can't be what it should be, but with Him, you can have a thankful heart and spirit, plus a face to match it. "A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance." Proverbs 15:13a. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine; but a broken spirit drieth the bones." Proverbs 17:22. A merry heart is pleasant and cheerful; a broken spirit is probably a despondent one. Whichever you have, your face and actions will show it. Is your spirit a pleasant one or are you the crab that your family has for supper?

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"AND HE HEALED THEM ALL"

LUKE 6:17-19

Nobody likes to be sick. I suppose about everyone has been sick at one time or another. Maybe you've had the measles, chicken pox, or the flu or just a bad cold. These are sicknesses that usually pass and we get well again. There are other diseases which doctors can't always heal. In Jesus' time people had leprosy, palsy, were born blind, deaf or couldn't talk. Many people were lame, some couldn't walk. I suppose many had cancer or tuberculosis or maybe polio.

Jesus could heal anybody. It didn't make any difference whether they had leprosy, or were blind, deaf or cripples. Jesus could make them well again. It wasn't long till people began to talk about how Jesus could heal. They came to Jesus by the hundreds and the thousands. Wherever Jesus was, someone would know it and tell others. From the hills, the plains, the seashore and from the villages and towns, from every direction people came to Jesus. Those who were sick, crippled, or blind came to be healed; others just came to see what Jesus would do. He healed them all.

The Bible says that the common people heard Him gladly. There were others, the scribes, Pharisees, and Sadducees, the rich and those who were in authority who didn't want to believe in Jesus. They thought that the Messiah would be a king, have lots of money and would make the nation of Israel rule the world like it did when Solomon was king. They put their own selfish interests first and didn't care about the sick, the blind, and crippled.

Jesus loves everybody. It would be wonderful to see Jesus heal people. I suppose many times a worried mother would bring a sick child to Jesus — maybe one almost ready to die and Jesus would touch that little child and immediately it would be strong and well. How thankful the mother would be! No one ever went away sick from Jesus because the Bible says, "He healed them all."

Jesus healed the sick in body so people would know He was the Son of God. His real purpose was to heal the soul. Jesus died on a cruel cross so you and I could have our sins forgiven. He can make the sinner whole. He can heal YOUR soul if YOU will come to Him.

Brother Rudy Cover



GOOD MEASURE—A man was once asked why he was so particular to give good measure, and he replied: "God has given me but one journey through this world; and when I am gone I cannot return to correct mistakes."

CULTS

THE HARE-KRISHNA MOVEMENT

In past articles, we have alluded to the fact that we are living in a day when many people are attempting to move beyond Christianity. Because of the myths of progress in vogue today, the word "beyond" has a certain appeal. Something that is forever fixed like TRUE Christianity seems in the minds of some to be stodgy and undynamic. In this age things must forever progress. The prevailing emotion of this civilization is not love or hate or anything so activist; it is boredom. We demand new fascinations to feed our ever shortening spans of interest. I think this demand for new fascinations has led many to try to move beyond "the faith once delivered to the saints" to something newer and "more exciting."

Many of you have probably seen the young people of the Hare Krishna movement on the street corners and at airports. Known as ISKON, the cult was founded by "his divine grace", Swami Probhupada, who first came to the United States in 1965. By October of 1966 this spiritual master (or guru) had established the Hindu cult of Krishna worship in New York City with the objective to promote "spiritual enlightenment" and to spread the pure love of god Krishna throughout Western society.

The devotees of Krishna follow a traditionally ascetic Hindu life style that revolves around a network of fifty or so communes nationwide. They get their devotees by looking for young people who are seeking... seeking something they can hold on to. The group persuades the person that his or her parents represent a bad influence on their life. He then receives assurances from temple leaders that he would be sent someplace where his parents couldn't find him. As a neophyte devotee, he quickly learns the temple rules and is taught how to chant, how to participate in the temple ceremonies, how to prostrate himself before the statues of wood and marble, and how to adapt to the daily temple routine.

Full membership in the cult is attained by stages. After a period of time, the member goes through the harer nama ceremony, then later the brahminical initiation. The second initiation involves receiving a sacred thread which is worn over the left shoulder and across the chest. They are given a secret mantra, the gayayri mantra, which is chanted three times each day.

The ultimate objective of the Hare Krishna devotee is to be engaged in a life of loving service to Krishna. They use "prayer beads" and study the Bhagavad-Gita or their sacred scriptures.

Their primary daily activity is to participate in what is termed "sankirtana" or chanting and singing on the sidewalks. These daily excursions constitute a form of preaching but also it is a major means of soliciting donations. Some members are now wearing normal clothing as they find they can get larger donations that way. Each person brings in from sixty to one hundred dollars each day. Hare Krishna members have been known to solicit funds while dressed as Santa Claus and the Easter bunny and many times tell people they are feeding the poor children of India. All the income goes to the organization and its leaders.

After a full day of witnessing and solicitation, the devotees return to the temple about 6 P.M. and shower. Every time they come in from the streets, they shower! The statues of gods they use are bathed in rose water, honey, milk, and a small amount of cow's urine. After completing the ceremony, the devotees consider it an honor to drink the liquid.

Perhaps more than anything else, the young people pursuing this, and other cults, are involved in a search for identity and a quest for spiritual reality that provides clear-cut answers to their questions. Coming to grips with one's identity has always been a part of adolescence but with the massive cultural and social changes that are a part of our world, the pressures are even greater.

As conservative Christian adults, we have a big responsibility to provide leadership and concrete Bible answers to our questioning youth. Young people, LISTEN! Fight the good fight for Jesus Christ. By keeping Him foremost in your lives you can resist a Satan that is out to destroy you.

Brother Leonard Wertz

THE WATERS OF LIFE

There are some today who teach that the Bible CONTAINS the word of God instead of the truth that the Bible IS the Word of God. This causes me to think that the Bible is not the CONTAINER but the WATER OF LIFE. Rev. 22:17, "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Saying that the Bible is the water of life does not in any way negate the fact that Jesus Christ is the water of life. Just as you can not separate the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit as being one in the mystery of the Trinity so you can not separate the written word from the Living Word.

I would like to think of the Bible as the RIVER of living water. Psalm 46:4, "There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most high."

This River is available to everyone who desires to use it. It flows pure and deep and contains food for the hungry souls, a refreshing dip for those who are weary, and most important a cleansing for those filthy with sin. Ephesians 5:26, "That he might sanctify and cleanse it (the Church) with the washing of water by the word."

Next I would like to think of Jesus Christ as the WELL of living water. John 4:14, "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." It is in this area that many part ways in Bible understanding. While it is true that this Well is available for everyone, unlike the River, you can not get value from this Well without an effort on your part. Those who say this is working for your salvation do not understand the difference between human works and obedience to the leading of the Holy Spirit. There are two extreme schools of thought in this area, both wrong. There are those who teach that Jesus died for our sins and therefore there is nothing we can or must do. The other school of thought teaches that we work our way to Heaven by good deeds and clean living. The blood of Jesus Christ is the only remedy for sin and this is the only "key to Heaven" given by God. You can not supply the WELL, God has already taken care of that. But the well is useless unless you draw from it. You have to "let the bucket down" or "pump the handle." The Bible teaches we must repent and be baptized. Matt. 28:19, Mark 16:16, John 3:5. The apostles through the leading of the Holy Spirit taught the need of baptism. Acts 2:38, Acts 8:13, Acts 8:36-38, Acts 10:46, Acts 22:16, Rom. 6:3-4, Gal. 3:27, and Col. 2:12. (There are more.) Does this mean that WATER washes away our sins? Certainly not! Again there are certain things you can not separate, salvation and obedience are one of them. The word used in the original writings means to immerse, so there is only one right way to baptize. The question is often asked is it possible to be saved without baptism? It is my conviction that God does make exceptions when water baptism is impossible. Two instances I can think of are severe illness and being in prison. As for those who claim salvation without the desire of baptism I leave them in the hands of God.

Last I would like to think of the Holy Spirit as a pouring out (like a refreshing rain) of water. Acts 2:17, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh..." While the sinner can benefit from the pouring out, only the saved can enjoy its blessings in the fullest sense. God pours out His Spirit for three primary reasons. First to convict sinners of a need of salvation. Second He sends His Spirit upon "new born converts"

to convince them of the truths in His Word and to give them the assurance of salvation. The third reason He sends His Spirit is to fill believers to enable them to perform special tasks and to take them through trials and suffering. John 16:13, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth..." John 14:26, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost..." Acts 4:31, "...and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness." Just as we must have rain from time to time for plants to survive so we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit from time to time. It is important that we do not confuse the GIFT of the Holy Spirit (a one time event unless you fall from grace) with the FILLING of the Holy Spirit (an event that takes place many times in the life of an obedient Christian). The gift of the Holy Spirit takes place at the time of conversion while the filling of the Holy Spirit takes place when special needs arise.

Let us enrich our lives by going to the River (the Word of God) on a regular basis, by staying close to the Well (the Lord Jesus Christ), and by allowing the Pouring Out (the Holy Spirit) to guide, direct and bring us refreshment.

James M. Hite
816 East Birch Street
Palmyra, Pennsylvania 17078

THE CHRISTIAN MOTHER!

Mother's Day. The second Sunday of each May has been chosen for a day to show special honor, respect and remembrance to "Mothers." It is most likely the day Mothers receive more cards, flowers and maybe visits than any other day of the year.

On May 10, 1913 a resolution passed the Senate and House of Representatives to make the second Sunday in May a public holiday in honor of Mothers. This idea was first started by Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It occurred to her, in remembering her own mother's death, that a day dedicated to all mothers would be a beautiful gesture. She became the missionary of the idea and the author of the phrase, "In honor of the best Mother that ever lived — your Mother."

The Christian Mother not only has Mother's Day in honor of her, but many, possibly every day of the year, some honor, respect, love, or some words of compliment might be given to her. The Christian Mother following Bible guidelines has honor given her by her children, husband, friends, neighbors, and maybe even the community.

Many times the toils and cares of the Christian Mother are overlooked and taken for granted while we grow up. It is not until new homes are established that we fully realize what Christian Mothers' responsibilities are. In this day when we are living, the Christian Mother deserves many thanks for there are many so-called Mothers who don't even keep their children after birth.

We must never forget her pain and restless nights before we were even born into the world. How about the numerous hours spent in taking care of our daily needs and the many trying hours she spent by our side while sick? And the most important job our Christian Mothers did for us was praying for us, teaching us from the Holy Word, singing and teaching us hymns. We must not take our Godly heritage for granted.

A bit of wisdom has been stated something like this "A good Mother is worth more than ten thousand instructors." There certainly is alot of truth in this saying. In a lot of cases it is because of Christian Mothers teaching us right from wrong that we have a desire to do what is right. Is it any wonder that the ungodly mother's children grow up not giving respect to her or anyone, due to the lack of concern and careless, unloving way in which they were handled.

We are thankful we can turn to the Scripture for some guidelines. In Titus 2, Paul is telling Titus some duties of a Christian Mother. Verses 4-5, "That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children. To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands that the word of God be not blasphemed."

It is sad to think of the children who are victims of selfish mothers. They find themselves in the hands of baby-sitters because mother thinks it's too boring at home or perhaps because she works to fulfill her own fleshly desires. We hope this can never be said of mothers in God's Fold.

We do know if Mothers will ask God to help them, and will abide by the guidelines given in the Holy Word, God will bless them with a Happy Mothers Day, all year long.

In Christian Love,
Brother Glenn Burkholder

GOOD NEWS

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness... make his paths straight." Matthew 3:3b.

Two thousand years ago, that trumpet blast was heard, after apparently a period of four hundred years of silence on God's part. No prophetic voice was heard to reprove men of their wickedness or to tell them of the love of God for them. There was a famine in

the land for the Word of God. Just imagine, not one Gospel Message in four hundred years! What a dark time that was.

Then one day, yes, happy day, the above message was heard. John the Baptist, the mighty trumpeter of God, was announcing the arrival of the Savior of the world. There was a revival. Those who had ears to hear that voice came unto him. All the land of Judaea came out to be baptized of him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Jesus came along and was baptized of John also, identifying Himself with the ruined race of men.

For three and one-half years Jesus walked among men, healing the sick, loosing men and women from satanic power and doing good wherever He went. Cruel hands then nailed Him to the tree of shame. The very elements revolted at this treatment of the Son of God. A time of darkness was again over all the earth, a different sort of darkness. This time it was of the elements. But the darkest hour was when God turned His back on His own Son as He hung on the Cross, identified with you and me.

But soon there will be another voice, another trumpeter, announcing the coming again of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. After the silence of these two thousand years, that voice will break forth and call men to repentance and preparation to meet the Lord who will be coming from Heaven with power and glory.

That coming will end the greatest hour of darkness (the Great Tribulation) the world had known since Calvary. Again, God will have His faithful ones on the scene to point to His Son. The light will shine out from Heaven and the Lord Himself will come triumphant and glorious to set up His Kingdom on the Earth and a new day will dawn for this world. Heaven will come down into this world of sorrow and pain and gladness will abound.

A lasting happiness will come to the world with Jesus' coming to them. God Himself will dwell with men and they will be His people and He will be their God.

Brother C. L. Frost

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from May 1, 1979 Issue

At this point, please bear in mind and don't forget, God did make this new covenant with them and Christ fulfilled and extended it to the end of the world, through His Covenant of Grace. In the text above Jeremiah tells us when "the old covenant was made" with the children of Israel. It was when God delivered them from Egypt. So we have found the time of the covenant. Let us find the place also. Deut. 5:2-3. "The Lord our God made a covenant with us in

Horeb. The Lord made not this covenant (of the Old Testament) with our fathers (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob), but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day." This Covenant, the Law, was only for the children of Israel.

We have now found two facts concerning the Old Covenant. First, it was made with Israel. Second, it was made at Horeb, or Sinai. See Ex. 1:1-6; 3:1-6. What was this Old Covenant with Israel? The Word of God tells us. Ex. 34:27-28, "And the Lord said unto Moses, Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel. And he was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments." This is plain. We have shown what the Covenant was, the time it was given, and the place. Hence, it is the Old Covenant, which God gave to Israel and which the Apostle Paul says, "was done away." Heb. 8:6, "But now hath he obtained (meaning Christ) a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises."

The Old Covenant to Israel was a temporal covenant and its promises were only temporal. While the New Covenant is a Spiritual Covenant and the ones that keep it are promised everlasting life. Let us not forget that Jeremiah had prophesied of this new covenant, which was to be made "not according to the covenant made with the fathers." We will now show by the Scriptures, that the Old Covenant was the ten commandments. Deut. 4:12-13, "And the Lord spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only ye heard a voice. And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone." The Ark of the Covenant was called the Ark of the Covenant because it contained the ten commandments. I Kings 8:9, "There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb (Sinai), when the Lord made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt." I Kings 8:21.

These passages of Scripture are too plain to be misunderstood. The "Old Covenant" was the "ten commandments." The ark contained the covenant; there was nothing in the ark except the ten commandments. Men, in the face of these Scriptures, who maintain that we are still under the Old Law or the ten commandments, are simply bound by a theory they will maintain anyway. "If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into the ditch," saith the Word. We want to show, a little further along, that we are no longer under the Old Law nor the ten commandments. They are no longer binding upon Christians today.

God confirmed His covenant with Israel and made it an everlasting covenant of peace, and an everlasting priesthood. Yet the priesthood was changed, of necessity, when Christ, the "seed" (the Messiah), came under the new covenant. This priesthood was made to Phinehas, Aaron's son. Num. 25:10-13, "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Phinehas, the son of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy. Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace, And he shall have it, and his seed after him, even the covenant of an everlasting priesthood; because he was zealous for his God, and made an atonement for the children of Israel." God reconfirmed His covenant with the children of Israel at Bochim, Judges 2:1-5.

We learn from the Scriptures that God never breaks a covenant with man. Nevertheless, when man breaks his covenant with God, God sometimes has changed His covenant of peace with man, making it new. This was the case when the change was made from the Old Covenant to the New. We come now to the time when God made His covenant with David, which Covenant stands through Christ, being Spiritual for all Israel, throughout both the Old Dispensation of Law and on through the promised seed, Christ. In closing this chapter, we would have you to study carefully the following references: II Sam. 7:12-13; Psalms 89:28; Isaiah 59:21. In our next article we will continue to discuss the Old Covenant and the Ten Commandments.

Brother William Root

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JUNE

June 3 — A Fruitful Vineyard. Isaiah 27:1-13.

June 10 — A Stone in Zion. Isaiah 28:1-29.

June 17 — A Rebellious People. Isaiah 30:1-14 (29:1-24).

June 24 — TEMPERANCE. Daniel 1:1-21.

QUESTIONS:

- (1) What does the Lord promise to do for His vineyard? Isaiah 27:2-6.
- (2) What is the tried and precious corner stone used for a foundation in Isaiah 28:16? (I Cor. 3:11)
- (3) What does the Lord say will happen to a rebellious people? Isaiah 30:13-14.
- (4) What did Daniel purpose within his heart when he was taken to Babylon? Daniel 1:8.

MARRIAGES

KLEPINGER-EBLING

Sister Della Klepinger, West Milton, Ohio and Elder David Ebling, Bethel, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage on January 2, 1979 by Elder James Kegerreis at the home of Bro. and Sis. Kegerreis. The couple will make their home at R. 1, Bernville, Pennsylvania 19506.

HEARN-DEGLER

Sister Mable Hearn, R. 1, Mohrsville, Pennsylvania, daughter of Elwood Hearn and the late Sister Fannie Hearn and Bro. Paul Degler III, R. 5, Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Degler, were united in marriage March 3, 1979 at the Dunkard Brethren Church, Frystown, Pennsylvania. The ceremony was performed by Elder James Kegerreis after a sermon by Bro. David Kegerreis. The couple will make their home at R. 5, Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania 19608.

KEGERREIS-MALLOW

Sister Yvonne Kegerreis, daughter of Bro. and Sis. David Kegerreis, R. 1, Bethel, Pennsylvania and Bro. Michael Mallow, son of Bro. and Sis. Eldon Mallow, R. 4, Greencastle, Pennsylvania were united in marriage April 7, 1979 at the Dunkard Brethren Church, Frystown, Pennsylvania. The ceremony was performed by Bro. David Kegerreis after a sermon by Bro. Eldon Mallow. Elder James Kegerreis conducted the opening devotions. The couple will make their home at R. 4, Greencastle, Pennsylvania 17225.

NEWS ITEM

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lititz Congregation plan to have their Lovefeast, Saturday, May 19 starting at 2 o'clock with Lovefeast in the evening.

A hearty invitation is extended to Ministers and all that can to attend our Lovefeast.

Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JUNE, 1979

DELIVERANCE

Memory Verse: Jud. 2:16

Never the less the Lord raised up Judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them.

Fri. 1 - Jos. 10:28-43

Sat. 2 - Jos. 11:1-23

Memory Verse: Jud. 7:14

And his fellow answered and said, this is nothing else save the sword of Giden the son of Joash, a man of Israel: for into his hand hath God delivered Median and all the host.

Sun. 3 - Jos. 20:1-9

Mon. 4 - Jos. 21:43 - 22:14

Tues. 5 - Jos. 22:15-34

Wed. 6 - Jos. 24:1-13

Thur. 7 - Jos. 24:14-33

Fri. 8 - Jud. 1:1-20

Sat. 9 - Jud. 1:21-36

Memory Verse: Jud. 8:34

And the children of Israel remembered not the Lord their God, who had delivered them out of the hands of all their enemies on every side:

Sun. 10 - Jud. 2:1-23

Mon. 11 - Jud. 3:1-11

Tues. 12 - Jud. 3:12-31

Wed. 13 - Jud. 4:1-24

Thur. 14 - Jud. 5:1-31

Fri. 15 - Jud. 6:1-24

Sat. 16 - Jud. 6:25-40

Memory Verse: Jud. 10:13

Yet ye have forsaken me, and served other Gods: wherefore I will deliver you no more.

Sun. 17 - Jud. 7:1-25

Mon. 18 - Jud. 8:1-35

Tues. 19 - Jud. 8:18-35

Wed. 20 - Jud. 10:7-18

Thur. 21 - Jud. 11:1-21

Fri. 22 - Jud. 11:22-40

Sat. 23 - Jud. 12:1-10

Memory Verse: I Sam. 4:8

Woe unto us! who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty Gods? These are the Gods that smote the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness.

Sun. 24 - Jud. 13:1-25

Mon. 25 - Jud. 15:1-20

Tues. 26 - Jud. 16:4-20

Wed. 27 - Jud. 16:21-31

Thur. 28 - I Sam. 4:1-22

Fri. 29 - I Sam. 7:1-17

Sat. 30 - I Sam. 18:18-27

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

WHAT WOULD IT MEAN?

What would it mean to the heart of God
If we who walk earth's blood-soaked sod
Would view the work through the Saviour's eyes
And show His spirit of sacrifice?
What would it mean?

What would it mean to our fellowmen
If Christ were to live in each heart again,
And the church were ablaze with a holy flame
And fired with a zeal to exalt His name?
What would it mean?

What would it mean to the church today
If ev'ry member would work and pray
And say from the depths of a willing heart,
"You can count on me to do my part?"
What would it mean?

What would it mean in this crisis hour
If all were filled with the Spirit's power?
And the church like an army would shine as the sun
And Christ would return for the work would be done.
What would it mean?

Selected by Sister Martha Shaffer

DIFFICULT TIMES

We are living in difficult times. Inflation, energy shortages, labor unrest and disregard for the public by the government and business are a few of our difficulties. When we consider the spiritual conditions surrounding us, we can understand why the Apostle Paul spoke of "perilous times." These conditions tend to discourage us and to make our lives more inconvenient.

As we approach the time for another General Conference, we reflect upon the difficulties in attending this meeting. Our usual travel habits are being changed making us more aware of these difficulties. Because we have been accustomed to ease and self indulgence, we are bothered by these seemingly hard times. Perhaps we even feel it would be better to stay home from Conference and perhaps, even more drastically, to cut our efforts in the Lord's service.

It would be well for us during these discouraging times to look backward to some of the other difficult times the Brethren have faced. We are not the first to face difficulties in our service and attendance at meetings. Within the memory of many is the Great Depression. Despite the many economic hardships of that era, the Brethren met yearly in General Conference. There have been wars, local, national and international, which have increased the difficulties that the Church had to labor under yet the Brethren continued to meet. During the Civil War, there were many barriers that could have defeated a less determined group of believers. The Brethren who lived in the South were especially hard hit by local regulations and sectional restrictions. Despite this, men like Elder

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John Kline traveled to the Northern states to attend Annual Meeting throughout the War. Perhaps the Brethren were tested even more severely during the Revolutionary War when their property was confiscated and some suffered physical abuse. Elder Christopher Saur's home and printing establishment were confiscated, the unbound pages of Bibles being printed were used as bedding for horses, and he suffered physically because he would not swear a civil oath. Yet the Brethren continued to meet to discuss the needs of the Church and to encourage one another. Certainly the Brethren have faced some difficult times, yet they continued to meet and to serve God.

While these trials may seem great to us they hardly compare with the hardships brought upon the Brethren when they first organized in Europe. They knew persecution first hand. They were driven from one area to another, receiving no real welcome anywhere. Some were imprisoned because they would not renounce their faith. They knew difficult times. From the forge of those hard times came a people known for their love and peaceableness.

Their sufferings were far greater than any that we have known in our days of ease and worldliness. Yet their sufferings were hardly comparable to those of the Early Christians. They were accounted as criminals and treated as animals. The Church truly was established in the blood of Her martyrs. The blood shed by Jesus was the costliest and purest of all. In the midst of severe persecution, trial and hardship the Church grew from a little nucleus at Jerusalem to a worldwide body of believers.

Our present difficulties surely fade when compared with the persecutions of the believers of old. The disruption of our ease and prosperity may frighten and worry us but we must take courage. Our present difficulties may shortly be compounded into troubles much as our ancestors had to face. The Spiritual climate around us shows that Satan is trying to destroy and discourage the Church. Although he is doomed to failure, his wrath will be terrible and we may be called upon to pay dearly for our faith.

Now is the time to prepare ourselves. By our present difficulties we can be strengthened so we will be able to face even greater ones. James writes that faith without works is dead. Now is the time to show our Faith. That faith can be shown only through our works and our activities, not through our thoughts and intentions. Now we need to demonstrate our faith. We dare not allow shortages and high prices to keep us from the House of God nor from His Service. We may suffer inconvenience and hardship, but will not the price, whether great or small, be worth it when compared to Heavenly glories?

Will you show your faith by your continued service even in the midst of difficulty and hardship?

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

HAPPINESS IS LIVING FOR GOD

MATTHEW 5:1-12

Are you happy? If you are a Christian you should be. Jesus has promised you so many things. Sometime, if you are faithful, Jesus will take you to that most beautiful place, where nobody will ever die, or get sick, or feel bad ever.

Many people came to hear the wonderful words of Jesus. One time when Jesus saw the multitude of people He went up into a mountain and sat down. His disciples came to him and Jesus taught them. I think the multitude heard him too. What Jesus said to them is called the "Sermon on the Mount." The first part of this sermon is called, "The Beatitudes" which means, "declarations of happiness."

Jesus began by saying, "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Blessed, means "happy." Even though we are depressed and do not have much material wealth, Jesus says we can be happy. This doesn't seem possible, does it? If we have Jesus in our hearts, that is the greatest thing and we can rejoice down deep in our souls, even when we feel bad.

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." Have you lost a loved one — a brother, a sister, a mother or a father? This causes us to mourn and feel bad. Jesus was talking to his disciples — those who trusted Him. Jesus says that if we mourn we will be happy because we shall be comforted. Jesus loves you so much He can change your sorrow into joy.

"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." A meek person is gentle and patient — one that would not seek his own way if it would be harmful to another. I don't think the meek will inherit much of this earth where we live now. Jesus says there will be a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness. Surely this is something to be happy about.

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." A Christian should always want to be righteous — to be like Jesus. Jesus was always good. He never did anything wrong. If we want to be like Jesus, we will be happy. Jesus says so.

"Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." Are you a kind, forgiving and helpful person to those around you? Jesus wants you to be and He will bless you for it.

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, "Keep thyself pure." That means to do what is right and not sin. To be pure in heart means that we desire to always do what is right. Jesus says, "Be ye perfect, even as

your Father in Heaven is perfect." We should want to be the kind of a person that Jesus wants us to be. That should be our greatest desire. That will make you happy.

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." How wonderful it would be if everyone was a peacemaker! Then there would be no trouble, or wars, or selfishness, or greed, or hate, or jealousy. Only when you know Jesus can you be a peacemaker. Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you."

"Blessed are they that are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven." Have you ever been teased or made fun of because you are a Christian? Some people have had severe persecution — many died for their faith. Jesus says if you are treated badly because you are righteous — because you are trying to be like Jesus — you will be happy!

Do you think it is worthwhile to be a Christian? It most certainly is. It is the most rewarding way to live there is. Jesus wants you to be happy. Just to think about Heaven — a place to live where we will never die and can be with Jesus, should make you happy. Happiness is living for God.

Brother Rudy Cover

CULTS

THE UNIFICATION CHURCH

The Unification Church is well known to all of us. Young people struggling with their feelings about Christianity are most susceptible to this group. The "Moonies" work in different ways to recruit their members, but usually invite prospects to a weekend retreat. They appear to be devoted and very civilized, clean cut and purposeful. Very impressive!

The church was founded in Seoul, Korea, in the early 1950's. It is officially known as the "Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity." They have many other organizations under their control, such as the International Cultural Foundation, Creative Community Project, Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles, Unification Thought Institute, New Hope Singers International to name just a few.

Their leader, Sun Myung Moon is a millionaire industrialist. He was born to Presbyterian parents in 1920. He says that at Easter, 1936, he saw Jesus Christ who told him that he had been selected to carry out an important mission. He was to complete Christ's unfinished task. In 1973, Moon moved his headquarters to the United States and he now has thousands of followers. He is literally regarded as the Messiah, the Lord of the Second Advent.

They study a book called the "Divine Principle". It contains Moon's revelations and the basic doctrines of the church. Moon teaches ridiculous concepts like Lucifer seduced Eve, then Eve seduced Adam. He says that the planet Earth is the center of the cosmos and that God struggled all this time to create America. The two special locations in America are New York City and Los Angeles. Los Angeles is considered the spiritual center.

Moon uses "front girls" that are pampered and put on good diets to cover for the poorly kept members. He convinces members that everything they do has a direct effect on the world. They are not supposed to look in mirrors but DO look at pictures of Moon alot and literally fall in love with him. Members refer to Moon as Father or Master. He referred to himself in a 1973 talk as the "prophet of prophets." In the same speech he referred to the inadequacies of past saints, prophets, religious leaders, and theologians, and concluded, "Master is more than any of those people and greater than Jesus himself."

Moon, his wife, and eight children live in a twenty-five room mansion on an estate purchased for \$620,000.00 in suburban Westchester County, New York. All in all, Moon's financial empire is said to exceed fifteen million dollars.

A typical "Moonie" fund raiser brings in between one and five hundred dollars each day. Two hundred is probably the average. If you ask them if they are working for Moon they will usually say no!

Their worship service begins with the leader directing the group to bow down three times to the "Father and True Parents". They place their right hand over their left hand and put their hands on their forehead and bow down to the floor. They put their forehead on the floor and repeat their worship.

They use "holy salt". Most "Moonies" carry holy salt with them at all times in order to sanctify their food. If they are sick or in a bad mood, they use it because spirits enter through the back of the neck, so it has to be thrown over the shoulder.

Devotees are told that even Jesus speaks Korean, but of course, Jesus was a sinless Man who failed to complete His mission. The "Moonies" teach that the crucifixion of Christ was tragedy because it prevented Him from finding the perfect mate and founding God's perfect family on earth, thus achieving both the physical and the spiritual salvation of man. In Unification theology the Cross actually becomes synonymous with Satan. Also, Christian is a bad word to "Moonies". They call Christians off limits and are fearful of them. They say Christians will crucify their new messiah.

Finally, Moon is quoted as saying: "This master of yours has disciples who are willing to sacrifice their lives for this great cause . . . Out of all the Saints sent by God, I think I am the most successful

one . . . as it now stands . . . You can trust me as your leader . . . I am a thinker, I am your brain!"

If cult seekers have found conventional religious institutions to be lacking in spiritual depth and meaning, incapable of inspiring commitment and providing clear cut answers and often hypocritical in everyday life, then we, as conservative Christians, have a responsibility to communicate God's Word by our actions, speech and attitudes in all of our associations. We must be staunch fighters for spiritual accuracy. As parents we need always to relate our close relationship with Christ, the Church, and fellow Christians to our children. They should never be able to view the religious life of their parents as shallow and unrelated to reality.

Brother Leonard Wertz

TODAY

There are two ways to begin a new day, with prayer or without. Each of us begin the day one of these two ways, which do we choose? If you are His, I am sure you will need guidance from on High. Let us think about this today.

There are two ways of spending the Lord's Day. At the house of worship or out with the crowd in some worldly place. Which will you choose? Let us think about this today.

There are two classes of people in the world, the righteous and the wicked. You belong to one of these classes. Which? One follows the way of the Lord; the other the way of the world, which Satan rules. There are two great rulers in the universe, God and Satan. Every one today is serving one of these. Which? If you are serving the Lord it will be well with your soul, but if you are serving Satan it will be very sad for you when you leave this world.

There are two roads which lead through time to eternity, the broad and the narrow. Every one of us is traveling on one of these roads. The one is the narrow way which Jesus would have us trod, which leads to Heaven above, where Jesus is. The broad way to a life in Hell with Satan, a place of torment. Which are you on?

There are two deaths which people will die. Some will "die in the Lord," and others will "die in their sins." Each of us will die one of these deaths. Which will you? Now if you don't want to die in your sins there is still time for you to get right with the Lord. The door is still open. It is all up to you which choice you will make.

God so loved the world he sent His Son to rescue you and me. "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." John 3:17.

Sister E. M. Alltus

A LETTER TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE

Dear Young People,

I sat down to write an article about Torreon Mission but my thoughts kept being interrupted by you, so I decided to write to you instead. I have no particular person in mind. I love you all and I just want to share some things with you.

My time down here is almost up and I am getting pretty eager to get back home. I'm leaving behind some wonderful people and lots of great experiences. I will take with me many cherished, priceless memories. There have been quite a few baptisms since I am here; some of the baptized already have denied their faith, while others are growing stronger in the Lord. Bro. Frank is a wonderful example of what the Lord can do for a person. I wish you could all meet him. He used to live a rough life but now he interprets in church and he loves to tell people about his Lord. Frank is talented in speaking and he can hold people spellbound when he talks, even the little children.

I would have liked to have seen more saved but just as the Good spirit is working, the evil is too. It is so sad how many times the Devil wins. We must just keep working harder.

I honestly wish all you young people could spend some time here, even just a few days, at least get an idea of what it is all about. There are so many different activities going on. There are eleven staff members besides the children. Every one of us have different tasks that are our duties to do, but they all pivot around one main thought. . . . "Help lead a soul to Christ." Some of us work in the school, some go out visiting, some spend a lot of time on the roads running routes, others spend a lot of time in the houses doing housework, some work in the garage, but wherever we are we are making contacts, desiring to reflect the One we are serving. It is a challenge and it is rewarding.

So often my thoughts go back to you though and that is why I am writing. I would like each of you to think some day as you go about your daily routine, "What would the Navajos think of Christians if they saw me doing this?" It is really hard sometimes to answer the questions that are asked. We try to point out The Way to them but sometimes forget the inconsistency in our lives, but it does not go unnoticed.

For example, one day I was telling the children how devilish rock and roll music is. One little girl said, "But we don't have any Christian music at our house. Where can I get some?" Then I thought, "Bless your heart" but at the same time the thought struck me that there must be some people in our Church, who do not have Christian music in their homes either. Or if they do, it must be back

on the shelves getting dusty. I listened to a man speak, who had been in witchcraft. He said that every rock and roll singer communicates with the devil asking that their songs make a hit. If we buy any of this music we are inviting demons right into our home.

Another child asked me why Christians drive over the speed limit when I was explaining how we are supposed to obey the law as long as it doesn't interfere with God's law.

We teach against makeup and jewelry since the Bible speaks against such things. Then the question comes up, "How come some of the people in your Church wear lipstick and put rouge on their cheeks?" Also, there is fingernail polish and even some mascara. Do you see how it looks inconsistent to these children who are seeking the right way? They are not easily persuaded since they have been taught differently all their lives. In some ways we are so inconsistent that it isn't any wonder that we have problems winning them over.

We teach modesty and want dresses below the knees. (Not just "we" but God wants it too, because we all know how it affects the opposite sex when the body is exposed.) The children have this indoctrinated into them all the time at school. When some of the little girls see pictures of people in short dresses, they point and say, "She's wicked, isn't she, Sister Sally?" I am about to answer "Yes" when I think of all the times that I have seen short dresses on our members across the Brotherhood. Most of these people I would not classify as "wicked" and yet, HOW CONFUSING! How can we teach them right and yet justify our actions? Maybe some girls make their dresses long enough but then they sit in immodest positions or get in a car with young people and pull it up above their knees.

I explained to my devotions class the importance of keeping themselves pure and to always act in a way that would be pleasing to God. One student who had spent some time in one of our congregations said, "What about the Dunkards that act 'nasty'?" (They use the term "nasty" like we use "indecent" or "impure".) That child had seen some of our young people necking and hugging in such public places as outside the church doors and it really confused them. Again, I was groping for the right words. Young people, what would you have said?

We studied the verses on swearing and saying unnecessary words. Again, inconsistency was a problem. Sure, it's easy to teach them not to use such words as "God," "Christ," and so forth in vain but what about all our words like "goodness", "darn," "gosh," "heck," and so forth which really are only other words standing for those I first mentioned. Really, what kind of impression can we make when we have the same problem ourselves?

We want our young Navajo girls at school to be chaste, discreet, pure, and love the Lord. Then I think of what they would see if they'd come to some of our churches - - girls "hanging" on their boyfriends, girls trying to impress boys by putting on all their charm, rolling their eyes, flashing big smiles, talking gay and flippantly. Be careful how you walk, talk, and act. It all has so much to do with the Bible command of being chaste and discreet.

We have a big problem of commotion and talking in church. Sometimes the preacher even stops and says, "Everyone must get quiet before we can go on." Then I have to think -- "What if some 'Christian' young people were here who talk just as much as these do?" Wouldn't that be bad for the Navajos to see? They would wonder how come Christians talk in church because they've all been taught in Sunday School that it's the devil that makes us talk. We are in a heathen country and it is understandable that they do not see the importance of it. But what is really sad is that we have the same problem in our churches. Don't you see how wrong it is? Some Navajos who have been in our churches across the Brotherhood wonder why the young people talk during prayer. How would you explain that to them?

You see, one of the big advantages of being here is that you get to really recheck your own life and see if the way you are living is right, consistent, and makes sense to the world. Sometimes I know the Brotherhood, as well as us, gets discouraged that there is not more progress made here but do you think it's possible that you are helping to slow down the progress? Are you doing your very best and living as close to the Right Way as you know how?

Someday when this life is over we will look back and see how foolish it was of us to take our Christian lives so lightly. We will wish we had done so many things differently but then it will be too late. Our sorrow will be multiplied though if we find out it was because of our inconsistency that someone else is missing out on the joys of Heaven. Perhaps they could not see the plan of God through our lives which were too much conformed to the world.

I am talking to myself as well as anyone. I was guilty of a lot of things I mentioned. But God will forgive if we purpose within our hearts to do better. I really hope and pray that you choose to follow the Lord's footsteps as close as you can, younger in your Christian life than I did in mine. God bless and strengthen you all!

Love in Him,
Sister Sally Stauffer

JUST AN ACT

MATTHEW 23

A woman questioned me concerning my belief in God and asked specifically if we wash feet. I said "yes", to which she replied, "Our Church does, too, but I won't anymore. It's just an act, and I don't want any part of it." She had detected the insincerity of the people at the Church where she attends services. Because of it, she can no longer participate with them with a free spirit. Whatever the footwashing service may mean to her, the attitude of the others is a hindrance to her. She could go elsewhere to worship, but would she find sincerity there?

It is easy to look at others and see their insincerity, but what about us? It is easy to look on the Pharisees and their insincere and falsely pious ways, but what about us? How many times do we do the things we do just because it's expected of us or because we want to impress someone with our "piety?" It is important to keep God's commandments, but how many times do we fit in the category of just putting on an act?

God is not impressed by our attempts to appear righteous. People usually are not impressed either. Serving God from a sincere heart is what counts and no matter how many acts we put on, we can't fool Him. If your heart is not right with God, then your heart cannot be in what you do. If your heart is not in what you do, then you are just putting on an act. Rather than bringing you closer to God, your act just becomes a barrier. God cannot help you then; He cannot bless the self-righteous Pharisees.

When our service becomes nothing more than just an act, there is no meaning in it, except that we've lost out with God. "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof" (II Tim. 3:5) gets you absolutely nowhere. But when your life is genuinely directed by the Lord, you will have a spiritual vitality that no one has who is simply putting on an act. You will have a desire to please the Lord in every way. Along with the form — that which people can see which indicates contact with God — the power of God will be there, too.

"Just an act" can apply to many little matters as well as the more important or more noticeable ones. You may smile and manifest a pleasant spirit to your neighbor through the week, then on Sunday, you scowl at your fellow servant of the Lord. Why? Do you genuinely care about your neighbor or are you just trying to impress him? "Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be." James 3:10. You can't bless God or your neighbor in one breath, and curse or misuse someone else in the next and still please Him, because it is

hypocrisy. Your attitudes and actions need to be consistent and in agreement, whether the matter is really important or not.

If the same people who see you on Sunday at Church see you during the week, do they recognize you? If the people who see you during the week were to see you at Church, would they recognize you? Sure, your work clothes would be different than what you wear to worship services, but if you have a Christian spirit, it will always be the same. People should be able to see Christ's spirit in you everyday, not just on Sunday or some special occasion. This same spirit makes you recognizable — always — as one of God's own.

"He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me." Mark 7:6. Is your heart close, really close to God? Or have you been putting on an act? The things you say and do are of little value unless it comes from a genuine desire to please God. The Pharisees wanted to impress people and they really made a big display of themselves. Perhaps this flattered their egos, but it did not put them in favor with God. Be sure that you honor God with your heart; then what you say will be sincere.

"Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity." Matt. 23:28. No matter how good you look on the outside, no matter how good of a front you put on, it is worthless. Unless your heart is right with God, you stand condemned. The Pharisees put on a good front and did their best to look pious, but it was wasted effort. Jesus only condemned them, because they were putting on an act. Do you stand approved or condemned before Christ?

Be sincere and honest in your service to God. Study the Bible to find out His will for your life. Ask God to show you the way wherein you are to walk. If you really want to do His will, He will help you so you won't just be putting on an act. "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 7:21.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554



We have to turn to get on the right way; the Lord literally turns us from sin. After getting on His way, we shouldn't turn except to turn the other cheek when we are mistreated. We must turn from darkness to light, from sin to salvation, or be overturned in our sins and suffer. His wrath on us.

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

EVER PRESENT

"The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth. He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them." Psalms 145:18-19.

How blessed it is to know that the Lord is always near us. When we come into trouble, we do not need to fear that He will not reach us in time. We know that He is near, because we have fellowship with Him day by day. Men of all ages have found that He is a very present help, not only in times of trouble, but in all times.

When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, they felt the shame of their nakedness and tried to hide themselves by donning fig leaves and hiding among the trees. God knew their plight, and we read these gracious words, "Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them." Gen. 3:21. What care God showed for His creatures, even though they had disobeyed Him! He came near and clothed them. This speaks of Calvary, where Christ's blood was shed that we might be clothed with God's righteousness.

"And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him." Gen. 5:24. Here we read that God came near to walk with Enoch. He is always ready to walk with us through our travels on earth. He does not hold himself aloof from His people, especially if they desire to have communion with Him. Enoch was delighted to walk with God, something rare in his time. The result was that one day they took a long walk and did not return.

There was a time when Jacob was afraid and distressed. He feared for his life. He was left alone one night and a Heavenly Being came to him. Jacob clung to this visitor and would not let him go until he was blessed. His name was changed that night from Jacob to Israel — "for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed." Jacob was ecstatic, and we read, "And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved." Gen. 32:28-30. So God came near to Jacob and blessed him.

Do you think that these instances were unique? They were, according to the individual need and circumstance, but we need not relegate such experiences to the past only. The Apostle Paul declares, "... though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being ..." Acts 17:27-28.

He will come near to you, for whatever purpose is needful. Call upon Him in truth and find out.

Brother C. L. Frost

OBITUARY

FRANK BRITTON

Bro. E. Frank Britton was born January 4, 1906 in Prince William County, Virginia. He departed this life at the Dunkard Brethren Church Home on March 22, 1979, at the age of 73 years, 2 months and 18 days. He was the son of Russell S. Britton, and the grandson of Elder J. F. Britton.

He is survived by his wife, Anna; one daughter, Clara Anne Ressler, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania; two brothers, Roy, Warrenton, Virginia, Rufus, Silver Spring, Maryland and one sister, Ruth, Suitland, Maryland; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Bro. Britton was baptized into the Church of the Brethren at the age of thirteen. In 1936 he was installed into the deacon's office. He united with the Dunkard Brethren Church in December, 1974.

Funeral services were held March 26 at the Myers Funeral Home, by Elder Fred Miller of the Church of the Brethren and Bro. John Pepper of the Dunkard Brethren Church, with interment in Mechanicsburg Cemetery.

We'll not forget him, we who stay
To live a little longer here,
His name, his deeds, his kindness we lay
On memory's tablet bright and clear.

NOTE OF THANKS

May the Lord bless everyone who helped us in so many different ways during the deep sorrow and death of our beloved husband and father.

Sister Anna Britton



WORLD A GRAVE—The grave is a bulwark cast up between time and Eternity. Our eye may not pierce it. Below works corruption, and the form which once contained a beloved spirit is crumbling into earth. We also are following after. Soon our dust will rest there too; the dust of our children and of our children's children will soon be added. Generations bloom and generations fade; those who enter upon the surface of the earth are sinking again below it. The world is nothing more than one single, great grave. As it swings around the sun in its accustomed orbit, like a true mother it carries the dust of her child in her bosom!

NEWS ITEMS

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation enjoyed two weeks of revival meetings March 18 through April 1 with Bro. Fred Pifer, Dallas Center, Iowa as our evangelist. Bro. Fred brought to us inspiring messages through the Word of God. Let us be mindful of what we have heard that we might be drawn closer to the Lord in these last days.

We were happy for the five precious young souls who gave their hearts to the Lord. We also had a precious soul baptized two weeks prior to our revivals.

Sis. Diane and Rebecca were with us during these meetings and we were happy to have them. May the Lord richly bless Bro. Fred as he continues his labors for the Lord.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Englewood Congregation has recently engaged in a two week Revival Meeting. Bro. Allen Eberly brought us soul-stirring messages from night to night.

Although no souls were added to the Church at this time, the seed has been sown in our hearts and minds. Now it is up to us as a Christian people to apply the Word to our lives and live it out in our every day walk of life, letting our light shine for Jesus till He comes.

We were most happy that Sis. Martha was with us also.

We trust the good Lord to bless Bro. Allen as he continues to preach the Word to a sinsick, troubled people of our land today.

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

NOTE OF THANKS

I want to express my sincere thanks to all who have remembered me by prayers, the many, many cards and also the telephone calls we have received during my stay in the hospital for surgery and my convalescence at home.

Brother Melvin Roesch

THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone who remembered me in prayer and with cards and gifts during my stay in the hospital and at home. May the Good Lord richly bless each of you.

Brother Ezra Beery

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Lester Fisher
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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

SPLINTERS FROM THE CROSS

Little headaches, little heartaches,
Little griefs of every day,
Little trials and vexations,
How they throng around our way!
One great cross, immense and heavy,
So it seems to our weak will,
Might be borne with resignation,
But these many small ones kill.
Yet all life is formed of small things.
Little leaves make up the trees,
Many tiny drops of water
Blending, make the mighty seas.
Let us not then by impatience
Mar the beauty of the whole.
But for the love of Jesus bear all
In the silence of our soul.
Asking Him for grace sufficient
To sustain us through each loss,
And to treasure each small offering
As a splinter from His Cross.

- Selected by Brother Lester Flora

NAKEDNESS

With the approach of summer, we can expect to see an increase in immodesty. Both men and women will expose as much of their bodies as possible. This exposure will not be limited to the beaches and other resorts but will occur in most public areas.

The shame that formerly accompanied this immodesty has been replaced by a contrary feeling. Today there is a desire to expose rather than to cover the body. This immodesty has affected all age groups and is apparent in all areas of the country. There are few, even among "Church People," who have not been affected by this immodesty. As this condition becomes more prevalent in the world, there is a greater danger of dress standards being lowered within the Church. This would please Satan, for his scheme to bring immodesty into the Church would have succeeded. If he can make the Church feel "too" peculiar then he can persuade Her to lower Her standards.

Nakedness means the absence of all clothes. But nakedness is possible even though there are some clothes draped upon the body. Anything less than God's Biblical standard for modesty is nakedness. Any garments that do not meet that standard are immodest. All immodesty is the equal of nakedness. Whether nakedness is total or partial, it is the same in God's Holy Eye. Although men may speak of degrees of immodesty, God is ever true to the standard of modesty He has delivered to mankind.

Immodest apparel is exalted in the newspapers, magazines and billboards and is made to appear as the standard that everyone should adhere to. Although immodesty may be the world's

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standard, it is not a standard high enough for the people who desire to serve the Holy God of Heaven. The world's standard is but Satan's standard, which is but another avenue to eternal punishment.

The nakedness of today is often more subtle than total nakedness. Today, people are trained in the designing and wearing of clothes so the desired degree of immodesty can be obtained. One or two layers of cloth do not guarantee modesty. With see-through materials, with stripes and other designs strategically located, with slits, with unfastened buttons, with the scarcity of material, and with the material pulled tight, the form of the body can be revealed in its most alluring and tempting way. This is true not only of women's fashions but of men's as well.

The problem of immodesty today had its origins in the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve's fall from perfection. Before they sinned they were naked without ill effect but after the entrance of sin this was one of the first things that they noticed. Having then the sinful mind of mankind, they set about covering their nakedness with leaves. Like people today they clothed themselves in immodest attire, which did not please God. He provided for them the clothes that would meet His approval. People follow their example yet today trying to dress in the least possible but God is not one bit more pleased now than He was then.

There are many excuses offered for wearing immodest attire. It is common to hear that such dress is cooler. Yet how can the body that is almost totally exposed to the heat be cooler than the body protected from the heat. A high price is paid to insulate houses to keep them cool during the summer, why shouldn't the body be insulated just as well with clothes. Another excuse for immodesty is that it is necessary in order to do certain things. If a task or pleasure requires clothing contrary to God's standard, then that activity is contrary to God's Will. Good can not be accomplished through evil devices.

Israel was warned throughout the Old Testament of the shame of nakedness. They were warned to stay close to God or their nakedness would be exposed to their enemies, which would be a shame. God even sent Isaiah amongst the people in a state of disrobement as a sign of coming captivity. Isaiah was not totally naked but in that time if a person was less than fully dressed he was considered to be naked. Even in the depravity of that age, the people at least had a degree of understanding concerning modesty that could well be used in the world today. Isaiah's token nakedness was a sign of coming captivity. Today's nakedness is a sign of the coming judgment of God.

As Christians we must continue to uphold the standard of modesty as given to us by God. As Christians we must be careful about our appearance that we are modest at all times in all ways.

SOME MOTHER'S SON

LUKE 15:11-32

Several years ago, during a visit to the Faith Mission at Elkhart, Indiana, the superintendent was speaking briefly concerning the varied group of men present that night. He said, "Just remember that every one of them is some mother's son." Some of them were fathers, some had families who cared about them. Still others were no longer wanted by anyone. Prodigals they were, but regardless of the condition they were in, each was a human being and God loved them.

They all needed Jesus. No doubt many of them had mothers and/or fathers who had prayed for their salvation. They weren't too bad to be saved, but were not yet aware of their soul's need. In a hand-to-mouth existence, the need for a bit of food often pushed all else into the background, so they were not concerned about their relationship with God. Even so, just because they were prodigals does not mean that they were worthless. To say they were all "some mother's son" is to say that each is a person, each is worth loving, and each is worth leading to Jesus.

Men who have failed first as sons, second as husbands and third as fathers, need help very much. They will not benefit from being ignored or condemned, or being shoved aside as just a "no-good bum." They will not benefit from being continually reminded of their failures, but they will benefit from prayer in their behalf. They will benefit from love, compassion and Christian teaching. They need to hear about Jesus, to know that He can forgive their sins and help them get their lives back together.

The prodigal son really messed up his life but he found love, forgiveness and a chance to start over. His father readily forgave him, in fact was waiting and longing for the son's return even though that boy had been very foolish. It was the older brother who did not forgive. Yet the prodigal son was entitled to forgiveness as much as anyone and more than some of us, because he realized and admitted his unworthiness. He came home with a truly repentant heart.

The prodigal son had a speech prepared for his father. He intended to ask to be made just a servant, but he hardly had a chance to. His father was too busy loving him and rejoicing to listen! Verse 21 says the son acknowledged his sin and unworthiness, but instead of being made a servant, his father had other plans. His father began a celebration and before long, everyone was celebrating except the older brother. They were not

celebrating because of the son's mistakes and wastefulness, but because the son who was dead was now alive; he had been lost but now was found. The older son saw only the shameful past but the father saw his son's present — his desire to start over.

Are you a prodigal? No matter how bad you are, nor how many times you have failed, with Jesus you can have a new life. Just as the prodigal son returned to his father, you need to return to your Heavenly Father — through Jesus Christ. If you come as he did with a truly repentant heart, you, too, will be received with gladness. A pardon will be granted to you and you will find yourself blessed and loved and cared for. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Rom. 10:13.

Do you know a prodigal? You may not be a physical brother to one, but you ought to be concerned about the prodigal. First of all, you should pray for his return — that he would leave sin behind — and when he does, you should forgive him and rejoice. You are not saved on your own merits anymore than he will be, so you have no excuse for not forgiving him wholly. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Eph. 2:8. Whatever you have, whatever you are has been given to you, so don't withhold your forgiveness from others, as the older son did. Help instead to lift others up and establish them in a right relationship with God.

The Philippian jailer probably wasn't a very nice man, until after the Lord got hold of his heart. See Acts 16. Paul and Silas had been beaten before being placed in his custody. Then he added to their misery by placing them in the inner prison with their feet in the stocks. Later that night, after hearing the message of salvation, he believed and became a different man. He washed the wounds of Paul and Silas and even fed them. And he did it while rejoicing! Paul and Silas felt no ill will, even though they had been mistreated. Neither should we, when someone repents.

"Worth loving - worth helping - worth leading to Christ." — Let this be your motto concerning those who are prodigals, whether sons or daughters. Your efforts may not always meet with success, but it's important to try. Jesus never turned anyone away and neither should we. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Isa. 55:7. As the Lord has mercy, so let us, whether it is our son or someone else's.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

MATTHEW 5:13-20

Which do you like best — light or darkness? Do you like night better than day? I'm sure we all like the light best. When it is sunny and warm, when the birds sing and the flowers open up to the wonderful sunlight, that is what everybody enjoys most. Night is for sleeping but God made the day for us to be awake and enjoy the wonderful things that He created.

God made the sun to rule by day and the moon by night, to give light that we might see. Without light, everything would be dark. We could not see. At night we have the moon and the stars to give some light. Sometimes when it gets real cloudy at night it is very dark and is hard to see anything. Then we need a flashlight or some other artificial light.

Were you ever in a cave down deep in the earth? I have been to Carlsbad Caverns, where you go into an enormous cave. When the guide takes you to this great big room, he turns out all the lights. It is so dark you can almost feel it. It is impossible to see anything. I don't think any of us would like to be in that kind of darkness very long. Everyone likes the light because he can see where he is going.

Jesus says that His people are the light of the world. He doesn't mean the light of the sun or the moon or an electric light. He means if we do the things that He teaches then other people can see the good things we do. He calls the good things light and the bad or sinful things darkness. We can be like a city that is built on a hill — everyone can see it. The good cannot be hid. Good people stand out. They don't do bad things or say bad things. They do what Jesus tells them to do. The Apostle John says that Jesus was the true Light that came into the world. Jesus told us how to live right and do good things. When we obey Jesus and live like He taught — then we can be a light. Others may see our good works and glorify our Father in Heaven.

Do you want to be a light for Jesus? Everybody should because Jesus has promised us that if we live for Him He will give us a home in Heaven. In that Beautiful Place there will never be any darkness. The light of the sun won't be there but Jesus will be the light. We cannot imagine what the beauty of that Place will be like. If we are lights for Jesus here, sometime we will live in that Beautiful Place, forever.

Brother Rudy Cover

MARTYRDOM

Martyrdom is the suffering of death for adhering to the Christian belief. It is caused by believing in a doctrine so strongly that the person will lay down his life, rather than accept another type of doctrine or religion. Martyrdom was at its peak during the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, during the rule of wicked kings and especially during that of a queen called "Bloody Mary". She was given this name because she was a very merciless person when it came to the punishment of Christians, who wouldn't accept her doctrine — that of the Roman Catholic Church.

To be able to accept death the way they did, the martyrs had to have an unquenchable love for Christ. When it came their time to be burned at the stake, chopped up into many small pieces, torn apart by horses, or many other cruel and inhumane ways of punishment, they accepted it joyfully. They loved the Lord for the way He had suffered and what He had provided for them through it.

Their attitudes toward the people of the world and their tormentors were very good. They closely followed the Bible, because it teaches Christians to love their enemies; they carried out this commandment as well as many, many other Biblical commandments. Their testimony was so good that on one occasion a martyr's executioner couldn't do the job — was converted on the spot, and killed as a martyr also.

The attitude of the world toward the Christians was very poor. The true Christians were a minority group of the day and were considered the off-scouring of the earth. At the time of this great martyrdom, there seemed to be a lack of respect for human life among many of the people and their leaders.

It seemed as though the devil had planted a deep hatred into the hearts of the Catholic Church leaders toward the true Christians. Since the Popes and Bishops of the church had so much power, many of the people were influenced in the same way — hatred for the true, Bible-believing Christians.

Many people might find it hard to understand why the Lord permits martyrdom. The Bible teaches that man has a natural hatred for Christ and His followers. When Christ was teaching His disciples, He told them that the world would hate them for His sake. All Christians, as disciples of Christ, will be hated by the world — especially during the last years of the world's existence. We can see through many of the cases of martyrdom, that what Jesus said was very true.

The Bible says, "Behold you shall have tribulation," meaning that Christians have, will, and are going to suffer for the cause of Christ.

We, as Christians, should strengthen and prepare ourselves, for we might also have to suffer for the cause of our Blessed Saviour some day. We know that Christ suffered very much for us on Calvary and we should be very thankful to Him for providing a way to have eternal life in that Perfect Land above.

Brother Paul David Skiles
Box 188, Cuba, New Mexico

CULTS

"CHILDREN OF GOD"

This cult, we find, is preying on young people who are searching. They are attracted by what seems to be the happy and positive attitude of those witnessing to them. The Children of God was founded in the late 1960's by David Berg, a one-time Bible teacher and itinerant evangelist. He dropped out of the Christian and Missionary Alliance with feelings of bitterness and contempt for institutionalized religion. After receiving a prophecy that California was going to slide into the sea as a result of an earthquake, Berg left the state with a group of about fifty disciples. He is now known as "Moses David" and he increasingly segregates himself from his growing following, interacting primarily with the movement's highest leaders. There are thousands of members in his organization throughout the world.

When one joins this group he has to sign a paper turning over all of his money and possessions to the Children of God. He promises to give them his goods and income, let them open his mail, and obey their rules and officers. The Children of God describes themselves as revolutionary Christian nomads. They completely cut themselves off from the "systemites", or people of the world. Members who have left the group say that the leadership constantly asks its members to write letters to friends and family to ask for money. "Mo" writes the group letters which they are required to study. Some have been called sex letters, complete with suggestive artwork. They have been in trouble for trying to peddle copies to the public. Berg says: "We have a sexy God, and a very sexy religion, and a very sexy leader with an extremely sexy, young following. So, if you don't like sex, you better get out while you can." His letter called "The Health Revolution" told members that they did not need to brush their teeth. Saves money!

Church colonies have no more than twelve members each, all members being brainwashed to become little Moses David robots.

Marriage with the group is simply defined as sleeping with someone. There is no formal ceremony.

The colonies many times get foodstuffs by stealing them from local supermarkets. They call this "spoiling Egypt!" Most Christians would call it stealing. The group witnesses in the street calling this function, "litnessing" and Berg tells them to "go ape... go until it hurts." This gets Mo's literature distributed and makes him money. They tell members that God's judgments are going to fall on the United States and that God is going to wipe out Americans and kill all the evil people.

This cult uses a demonic conspiracy to subvert the true gospel of Jesus through a human agent whose mind has been blinded by the devil. As Christians we daily fight against the evil powers. Our adversary is a clever strategist, fully aware that people are vulnerable in their religious experiences. These cultic, false teachers not only imitate the real ministers of Christ, but regularly quote scriptures and distort the Bible for their own purposes.

Fellow Christian, what if your child were to get caught up in a group like the Children of God? You would be tremendously concerned. Yet the Bible tells us to love our neighbors as ourselves and this indicates to me that we are to have the same concern for those outside of our close association. We have a responsibility to share the love of Christ with everyone, and a special responsibility, I think, to witness to those who have fallen into the hands of the cults.

Brother Leonard Wertz

WEALTH OF THE BELIEVER

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:" Ephesians 1:3.

The Word declares that He has already "blessed us with all spiritual blessings." This means that in Christ Jesus, from the time we were born again until we step into eternity, He has already blessed or made provision for us. Everything we need, He has already blessed us with. It is ours. In the mind of God, it is ours. We can find His provisions for His children in His Word and make them become a reality in our lives to the glory of God the Father.

"Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. Even so we,

when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." Gal. 4:1-7.

Our place is as heirs. But, as long as we are little children, we get no more than servants. As we grow and mature we become sons and can appreciate what God our Father has provided for us.

We are made alive unto God — Romans 6:11; I Cor. 15:22. We become a "new creation" — II Cor. 5:17. We are freely justified — Romans 3:24. There is "no condemnation" — Romans 8:1. The law of Christ makes us "free from the law of sin and death" — Romans 8:2.

He causes us to be triumphant — II Cor. 2:14. We have liberty in Christ Jesus — Gal. 2:4. In the new creation, all people are created free and equal — Gal. 3:28. We are made heirs — Gal. 3:29. We will one day collect our full inheritance — Eph. 1:10. We find that our inheritance is in Christ. How did we obtain it? Eph. 1:11.

We enjoy (taste or sample) the earnest of our inheritance — Eph. 1:13, 14; 2:4-6. The purpose of giving us a part of our inheritance now is that He might show forth His grace in us — Eph. 2:7. God is the Master Workman who is perfecting us — Eph. 2:8-10.

Brother C. L. Frost

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Part 8

Continuing the thought of the Old Covenant and the Ten Commandments being no longer binding upon God's people, let us hear Paul about this matter. II Cor. 3:3, "Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshly tables of the heart." Also in the seventh verse he says, "But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance: which glory was to be done away." Here Paul plainly tells us that that which was written upon tables of stone was done away. How much plainer could he have made it?

He tells us that they who go back to the Old Law (Old Covenant), the Covenant given to Israel, are in bondage. In Gal. 5:1, He says,

"Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." Also verse four says, "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace." Here we find the fallacy and the end of those who teach part of the "Old Covenant," which was given only to Israel. Paul simply says, they are fallen from grace. So we see that apparently the teaching of Jesus Christ means nothing to them.

The whole Mosaic system ended at the Cross of Christ. Surely this is so plainly taught all through the New Testament that no one should deny it. This includes the whole code of laws, moral, civil, and ceremonial, along with the Ten Commandments. The entire system was framed to fit the Jewish Nation, and could not possibly be for the Gentile Christians, or Church, throughout the sixth Dispensation of the world, this Dispensation of Grace. Therefore God has given "a new way," a "new Dispensation," a "new Covenant," not the "Old Covenant" given to Israel which was in itself, not according to that which He made with the Fathers.

Heb. 10:20, "By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh." Also in Heb. 8:7-9, "For if that first covenant had been faultless (the Covenant given to Israel, the Old Covenant), then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them (Israel), he saith, Behold, the days come (the days of the coming "Seed," the days of Christ), saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers (at the time of Moses) in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord." Here we see that the house of Israel and the house of Judah broke God's "everlasting covenant" with them, the "Old Covenant" which He had made with them.

God then confirms, or states, His "New Covenant" with them, through Christ their coming "seed," which He promised them. "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more." This is God's new Covenant through Christ, Israel's seed, the new "Covenant of Grace." Heb. 8:13, "In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old

(the covenant made with Israel). Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away." Christ said, "I come not to destroy the law and the prophets, but to fulfill."

Paul teaches "a new ministration." II Cor. 3:8-9, "How shall not the ministration of the Spirit be rather glorious? For if the ministration of condemnation by glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory." A change also of the law... Heb. 7:11, "If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron?" A "new priesthood." Heb. 7:12, "For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law."

Now, please examine carefully the following. "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." Jno. 1:17. This indicates a change. Paul says, "Ye are not under the law, but under grace." Gal. 3:24-25, "Wherefore the law was our school-master to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a school-master." Rom. 7:6, "But now we are delivered from the law..." Christ is the end of the law. "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth." Rom. 10:4. "The ministration of death written and engraven in stones was glorious." "...That which is done away was glorious," II Cor. 3:7-11. That ends the Decalogue.

Eph. 2:15, "Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace." Col. 2:14, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross." Also verse 16, "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of a holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days." Heb. 7:12, 18-19, "For the priesthood being changed there is made of necessity a change also of the law." "For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God."

Now, let us read Acts 15:1-29 and see the whole matter of the law, discussed by the apostles, and settled in the following words, "Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment." In verse 24, we have the decision of the apostles,

clear and positive. They gave no such commandment to keep the law. They decided that Gentile Christians were free from the whole system of the law. That which was abolished at the cross was the entire system. God did not single out and abolish portions and parts of the Old Law, and leave other parts remaining; the whole system ended at the cross.

Let us turn to the New Testament and settle this matter of what is binding upon us today, concerning the two covenants. Jesus says in Jno. 12:48, "...The word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." Likewise in Matt. 17:5, we hear God speaking out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." We have it from God Himself, that we are to hear only Jesus, not Moses and the law. Also Paul tells us, Heb. 1:1-2, "God... hath in these last days spoken unto us by his son..." Then in Heb. 2:3 this writer lets us know that our salvation was first spoken by the Lord Himself, while He was here on this earth. This is one of the most important Scriptures in the Bible, on the subject, for it emphatically teaches us, that we are not to go beyond our Lord for our belief. If we do what Jesus commands us, is that not enough? And shall we not be safe and sure of His love? And the love of the Father?

Where did Jesus ever command us to keep the seventh-day Sabbath? Nowhere. So Luke says, He was taken up, "after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen." Acts 1:2. As Christ is our "Lord and Master," Jno. 13:13; the "head of the church," Eph. 1:22; our "all in all," Col. 3:11; having "all power in heaven and in earth," Matt. 28:1; and, "is the judge of the world," Jno. 5:22, how reasonable that He should give the laws to His Church. So, that is just what He did. Therefore if any one will obey the teaching of Christ as found in the New Testament, he need not fear about his salvation. On the other hand all should heed this warning, Heb. 12:25, "See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven."

We have now shown to the reader, God's Covenants from Adam to David. In this article and the previous one, we have pointed out His special Covenant with Israel, given for the fifth Dispensation, the Old Testament covenant of law and works. We have shown God's promise of a New Covenant through David and through Christ, as revealed in the New Testament Scriptures, a covenant which extends through the sixth and seventh Dispensations of the world and on through eternity. It is an Everlasting Covenant. There

is no doubt that when we study and rightly divide the Word of Truth, we will find that God intended a New Covenant for Israel, as a Nation, for the Bible tells us that, "Salvation is of the Jews." However, they broke the covenant and rejected their Messiah, Christ.

When Israel (as a Nation) rejected Christ as their Messiah, the covenant was broken for them, for a time, and the New Covenant was extended to the Gentiles, Jno. 1:11-13; Matt. 21:42-43. These Scriptures prove this fact, as well as throughout the entire New Testament. The new covenant was sealed by Christ's blood. Note: the power under the blood. "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matt. 26:28. The New Covenant is for the Church, as well as for Israel, both Jew and Gentile. Christ became the Mediator of the New Covenant, because He shed His blood, Heb. 9:15. We will leave further discussion of the New Covenant for the sixth Dispensation. Our next article will have to do with the Law of God for the fifth Dispensation.

Brother William Root

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JULY

July 1 — "The Lord Will Be Gracious." Isaiah 30:15-33.

July 8 — Vain is the Trust in Egypt. Isaiah 31:1-9 (32:1-20)

July 15 — The Sinners Fear; The Righteous Blessed. Isaiah 33:1-24

July 22 — Indignation of the Lord. Isaiah 34:1-13.

July 29 — Salvation. Isaiah 35:1-10.

QUESTIONS:

- (1) What did the rebellious people of Israel say to the prophets of the Lord? Isaiah 30:10-11.
- (2) What did the prophet say of the Egyptians when the children of Israel put their trust in them? Isaiah 31:3.
- (3) Why were the sinners in Zion afraid? Isaiah 33:14. Why were the righteous blessed? Isaiah 33:15.
- (4) Where can we find out what God will do when people forget Him? Isaiah 34:16.
- (5) Who will have salvation and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy? Isaiah 35:10.



RETAIN IDENTITY—As, when different seeds are cast into the ground together, each produces its proper herb; so the bodies of men, though mingled in the dust, shall each receive its own identity in the resurrection.

MARRIAGE

SMITH-REED

Sis. Bridget Jo Smith, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Berton Smith, R.R. 2, Topeka, Indiana and Bro. Ross Reed, son of Bro. and Sis. William Reed, of Quinter, Kansas, were united in marriage April 21, 1979 at the Goshen Dunkard Brethren Church. The ceremony was performed by the bride's father, Bro. Berton Smith. The couple is residing at 603 Castle Rock Road, Quinter, Kansas 67752.

NEWS ITEMS

MIDWAY, INDIANA

We met Saturday, May 12 in the Midway Church house with a District Meeting Committee for the purpose of disorganizing and selling the property. Naturally we regret having to take this step but for practical reasons feel it must be done.

Besides an announcement, this notice can serve as an invitation to anyone interested to come to our sale set for 1 P.M., Saturday, June 30. The three-fourths acre property and church supplies in the building are to be sold by auction.

We have about forty Brethren Hymnals in fair condition which we would pass along directly to some mission or congregation that needs them. If interested, let me know soon.

Midway Cor. Brother Paul B. Myers
R. 4, Box 328
Peru, Indiana 46970

RIDGE, WEST VIRGINIA

The Ridge Congregation plans to hold a revival from July 1 to 8, 1979 with Brother Virgil Leatherman as our evangelist. Lovefeast will be held on Saturday, July 7. Come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Irene Harris, Cor.

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

A spring lovefeast was enjoyed by the Bethel Congregation, April 29. Visiting ministers were Frank Shaffer, Laverne Keeney and Jack Snyder. Bro. Shaffer officiated in the evening.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JULY, 1979

DELIVERANCE

Memory Verse: I Sam. 12:10

And they cried unto the Lord, and said, We have sinned, because we have forsaken the Lord, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth: but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve thee.

Sun. 1 - I Sam. 12:1-25

Mon. 2 - I Sam. 14:1-23

Tues. 3 - I Sam. 14:24-52

Wed. 4 - I Sam. 17:1-16

Thur. 5 - I Sam. 17:17-31

Fri. 6 - I Sam. 17:32-58

Sat. 7 - I Sam. 23:1-29

Memory Verse: I Sam. 12:21

And turn ye not aside: for then should ye go after vain things, which cannot profit nor deliver; for they are vain.

Sun. 8 - I Sam. 24:1-22

Mon. 9 - I Sam. 26:1-25

Tues. 10 - I Sam. 28:1-25

Wed. 11 - I Sam. 30:1-25

Thur. 12 - II Sam. 5:1-25

Fri. 13 - II Sam. 12:1-23

Sat. 14 - II Sam. 14:1-20

Memory Verse: I Sam. 17:37

David said moreover, The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the Lion, and out of the paw of the

bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the Lord be with thee.

Sun. 15 - II Sam. 18:1-17

Mon. 16 - II Sam. 18:18-33

Tues. 17 - II Sam. 19:1-23

Wed. 18 - II Sam. 19:24-43

Thur. 19 - II Sam. 22:1-25

Fri. 20 - II Sam. 22:26-51

Sat. 21 - I Kings 8:1-21

Memory Verse: I Sam. 26:24

And, behold, as thy life was much set by this day in mine eyes, so let my life be much set by in the eyes of the Lord, and let him deliver me out of all tribulation.

Sun. 22 - I Kings 8:22-43

Mon. 23 - I Kings 8:44-66

Tues. 24 - I Kings 13:1-19

Wed. 25 - I Kings 13:20-34

Thur. 26 - I Kings 17:1-24

Fri. 27 - I Kings 18:1-20

Sat. 28 - I Kings 18:21-46

Memory Verse: II Sam. 22:2

And he said, The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;

Sun. 29 - I Kings 20:1-21

Mon. 30 - I Kings 20:22-43

Tues. 31 - I Kings 22:1-40

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVII

JULY 1, 1979

NO. 13

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

DON'T YOU QUIT

Maybe you're having grief and trouble,
Maybe you think that the trials come double,
And life is shaking you up a bit;
But keep up your courage, and don't you quit.

Maybe your heart is filled with pain,
And you're all alone in the windy rain,
And your friends have failed, and you're pretty hard hit;
But trust in the Lord, and don't you quit.

And don't you quit for the jeers of the crowd,
And don't you give up for the threatening cloud.
Remember it's darkest just before dawn,
And the sun will shine when the night is gone.

The Lord has measured with tenderest care
What you can do, and what you can bear.
If the sun is gone, the stars are lit,
So trust in the Lord, and don't you quit.

Selected by Sister Martha Shaffer

RESPONSIBILITY

As parents we want our children to grow up to be responsible adults; as citizens we want our governmental leaders to be responsible in their decisions and actions; as travelers we want a pilot, engineer or driver to be responsible so we can travel as safely as possible. We do not appreciate the irresponsible.

The word "responsibility" speaks of one who is able to keep his promise. The responsible will fulfill their promises, whether it is the repayment of a debt, fulfilling their vows, or performing their work. The irresponsible lack the ability and often the desire to carry out their obligations either for themselves or others.

As individuals over the age of accountability we have many responsibilities to carry out. We have a responsibility toward God, the Church and our peers. But before we can carry these duties out we must realize the responsibility that we have toward the eternal soul that God has put within each of us. We must realize that God has given us custody and choice regarding our soul's eternal destiny. Either that destiny will be an eternity of Heavenly bliss or Hellish agony. God has not only given us this soul but He has provided the Way so bliss could be its eternal state. To fail in our responsibility is to double grieve God, the Giver and Deliverer of our soul.

Once this responsibility is met, the Christian can have a Christian life which fulfills these responsibilities. The Christian owes a debt of love to God for His delivering power, therefore the Christian has these responsibilities to fulfill, although their fulfillment can never repay God.

THE BIBLE MONITOR

JULY 1, 1979

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The Christian is responsible to God. God has given His Commandments to the Christian through the Bible. The New Testament commands are not optional for Christians. They are mandatory. If it were not for God's love He would not have given these commands, for they are given for the enrichment of the Spiritual life. The Christian is responsible to offer thanks and praise to God for the many benefits He has received. Also there is a responsibility to duly recognize His efforts in our behalf even in the presence of unbelievers.

The Christian owes responsibility to the Church. The Church is the Body of Christ. Since He is the Head of the Body, any who are not a part of the Body are not under His Headship. Any who do not acknowledge His Headship are trying to enter Heaven by some other way, which will classify them as thieves and robbers. There is no place in Heaven for thieves and robbers. There is no way but through Jesus Christ for He is "the Way, the Truth and the Life." This Body is mystical since it is composed of those widely separated around this world and of those living and dead. But the Body is also an organization set up by Christ, put into action by the Apostles, protected by God and served by Godly men. Each member is responsible to live a life that will not bring reproach upon the Church by carrying out the Church's counsels and regulations. The counsels of the Church are designed as a hedge to protect the Christian from the inducements of the world. This hedge puts a distance between the Christian and the world.

The Christian is responsible toward all men, whether Christians or unbelievers. Each person is responsible for his own soul and he is the only one who can make the choice for or against salvation. Yet the Christian has a responsibility to the lost to make known to him the plan of salvation. The unbeliever must be made aware of his Spiritual condition through the reading of the Bible, through the preached word or through personal testimony and teaching. The Christian's responsibility continues beyond the conversion of a sinner. He is responsible to set a good example in his living, by giving of time and finances and by faithful teaching.

Responsibility is increased as knowledge increases. When Christians sit under the sound of the Gospel whether from week to week in their home congregations or at General Conference they acquire a greater responsibility. They have a responsibility for their own souls, their Christian lives and the evangelization of the lost. When responsibility increases the penalty for not fulfilling it also increases. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17.

We have a great responsibility. We are responsible for our own soul's welfare then have a responsibility to God, the Church and our fellow-men. Let us fulfill these great responsibilities with the help of God, our Maker and Deliverer.

LORD, HELP ME NOT TO HINDER

"Lord, if I can't help, please help me not to hinder. When someone needs just a friend to talk to, help me to listen quietly lest I cause discouragement. Help me to be kind, to love even the unlovable. If I'm not kind, others will be sure that I care only about myself. When I needed love and kindness, You helped me, so help me to help others, and not hinder." Did you ever pray like that? You should, because we ought not hinder, but often we do, and only God can help us not to.

The disciples rebuked those who brought little children to Jesus. They evidently thought these people were being a nuisance and wanted to protect Jesus from such interruptions. In reality, they were being a hindrance. The parents wanted their children to be blessed, not shoved aside, and Jesus did bless them. He said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." Read Mark 10:13-16. Jesus wants us to be childlike and receptive, not a hindrance.

The man with palsy had to be let down through the roof in order to be in Jesus' presence. His friends were determined to bring him to Jesus, but the multitude hindered them. The people possibly could have stepped aside and made a path for the man, but they were more concerned about their own needs. Imagine their surprise when Jesus forgave the man's sins and healed him completely in a moment's time! Their attitudes changed considerably. "And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things to day." Luke 5:26.

Sometimes our unbelieving friends try to hinder us, although they may not realize it. Jairus' friends told him not to bother Jesus because his daughter had already died (see Mark 5:35). Jesus told him to not be afraid, but only believe. Jairus had already asked Jesus to heal his daughter while she was still alive; now Jesus indicated He would honor that request, even though the girl was dead. In a seemingly impossible situation, Jesus asked Jairus to believe. He wants us to believe also and not be hindered by those who say it's hopeless.

Another seemingly hopeless situation was the death of Lazarus (see John 11). Jesus lingered where He was, allowing Lazarus to die. He withheld His healing touch — why? Verse 4 says for the

glory of God. Mary and Martha couldn't see that, anymore than we can see why God delays in answering our prayers. Jesus knew He would give Lazarus life again, just as He knows how He will provide for our needs. Our own heartaches and our limited spiritual vision hinders us many times, but Jesus has compassion on us and will help us. He is touched by our grief just as He was by theirs.

The Scribes and Pharisees didn't want to be in the kingdom of Heaven (see Matt. 23:13) and they didn't want anyone else to go in either. With their selfrighteous ways, they hindered many people. As leaders, they should have been giving spiritual help and guidance as well as setting a good example, but they did neither. As followers of Christ, we should be careful that we do not hinder anyone. We have been given God's Word, so let's share it with others. It is very important that we do what we can to help others find Christ and to remain faithful to Him.

Our spiritual progress can be hindered in many ways, and often, if our own is hindered, we in turn hinder others. David was given Saul's armor; all it was, was a hindrance to him. He went forth in the Lord's strength and that's all he needed. Our possessions and family ties can hinder us; discouragement can also. But we are hindered more greatly by unbelief. If we fully believe, if we trust God and have peace within, we can encourage others to trust Him also. If we do not trust Him, we discourage others by that very act.

"Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way." Rom. 14:13. People fall often enough without us putting something in their way to make them fall. If we love others, we will be more careful, for it is love which keeps us from hindering. "He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him." I John 2:10. "Lord, help us all to love and help, not to hinder."

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

CULTS

THE WAY

"Church" is a word that many people misunderstand today. It seems that it has come to mean something completely different than what it meant to early Christians. In this time when people are looking for a new understanding and a new experience of what the Church really is, their search causes them to engage in activities such as cults. A recent Gallup poll showed that ninety-four percent of Americans believe in "God or a universal spirit," and seventy-one percent in life after death. But only forty-four percent had "a great deal of confidence" in organized religion and forty-one

percent are deliberately "unchurched." The "ekklesia" (church) should mean that we are a group of people called together for the same special purpose — that of worshipping the Lord and sharing Him with other people. As we strive to do His commandments and keep Him foremost in our lives, we depend on Him to help us resist a satan that is out to destroy us. One of the ways we can be destroyed spiritually is by putting our trust in "The Way," the last cult that will be discussed in this series.

The Way begins teaching most of their people by having them take a class called, Power for Abundant Living. This course consists of about thirty-three hours of tapes over a three week period. In any given week it is estimated that one thousand Americans start this study at a cost of \$85.00, the minimum "donation" required. The information was developed by The Way International, a Bible research and teaching organization with headquarters in New Knoxville, Ohio. The founder and prophet is Victor Paul Wierwille, 59, a former minister of the Evangelical Reformed Church. They have over twenty thousand followers in fifty states and thirty-seven foreign countries. The Way College of Emporia, Kansas is owned by them and has a student body of over four hundred unfortunate students. Wierwille claims to have received direct audible communication from God. He claims to have rediscovered the long lost "true" teachings of the original Apostles.

In their course, in the twelfth session, the student is asked to speak in tongues. Anyone who is honest at that point knows it is just a bunch of babbling. In a "how to" book, Wierwille says, "First, become quiet, become relaxed, (the seeker need not beg God for the experience), rest your head back and breath deeply, believing you can breathe in the spirit. Then just move your tongue and your throat, and you can speak in tongues." He really doesn't believe in the Spirit so he shouldn't be concerned about that gift anyway. He writes "Holy Spirit" in small letters and rejects His personage.

In one of Wierwille's more recent books entitled "Jesus Christ is Not God" he underscores Bible teachings relative to the Triune Godhead. Not only does he deny the doctrine of the Trinity, but he also rejects the Old Testament having any validity for Christians. He says that four thieves were crucified with Christ, not two, and that Jesus was not a Jew, only a Judean and concludes that humans experience a kind of soul sleep upon death.

This group witnesses in stores, restaurants, and in other public places, preying on lonely, unhappy or confused young people. Members actually become Wierwille robots. They many times have poor diets, are deprived of sleep and are typically brainwashed.

The members are told to try to get away from parents because Satan works through them. Their overall goal is to open up all major campuses in the Nation to their courses and program. They are working hard to achieve that objective.

Brothers and Sisters, those who love the Lord, this is serious business. Our youth can be susceptible to these false religions if we do not make them aware of the true Biblical teachings and give them the knowledge and desire to fight against these evil influences. Our responsibility is awesome, but all things are possible and work for the good of those who love the Lord. We individually are insignificant, but with a giant of a God in us, we can spread the true Gospel until His return.

Brother Leonard Wertz

YOU ARE WHAT YOU BELIEVE

DALE OLDHAM

A man said to me, "It doesn't make any difference what a person believes as long as he is sincere." That may have sounded like a very wise and broad-minded statement to him but to me it was just plain nonsense. How could such a man grow spiritually?

What we believe makes the difference between life and death, peace and pain, hope and despair, trust and pessimism, heaven and hell. I may hand you a bottle labeled "Essence of Peppermint" when actually it contains deadly strychnine. If you touch the contents to your lips, you will die, no matter what you think the bottle contains. It is tremendously important that what we believe turns out to be the truth. Nothing erects a barrier to progress more quickly than to believe a lie, or to give ourselves to false doctrine or erroneous philosophies.

If you wish to grow spiritually, it is very important what you believe because you are what you believe. "As he thinketh in his heart, so is he," the Bible tells us (see Prov. 23:7). To believe the truth lends power for day-by-day victorious living. Unbelief and negative thinking produce negative, weak living...

Just what do you believe? What are your intellectual convictions? What do you accept as being true? The answers to these questions will make a tremendous difference in the way you live, the way you handle your job, the way you get along with people, the quality of your family life, and your attitude toward the future. Benedict Arnold was the product of what he believed. So was Abraham Lincoln. But so are you. What you believe makes a difference in the way you live, and it will make a difference in the way you die.

Selected by Sister Ruth Drake

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

MATTHEW 5:43-48

Did you ever hate anyone? Did you ever feel that someone hated you? Anyone who hates you is your enemy. Jesus says to love your enemies. How can you love someone who doesn't like you?

Jesus had many enemies. They didn't like Him because He told them about their sins. Jesus loved them and wanted to help them. The only way that Jesus could help people who were sinners was to make them realize that they were doing wrong. If we don't know we are sinful, we have no way to correct our mistakes and do what is right. Jesus called the Pharisees, "hypocrites." A hypocrite is one who tries to make people believe he is good when really he is bad. Jesus said they were like whited sepulchres which appear to be beautiful on the outside but within they are full of dead men's bones and of all uncleanness. Because Jesus told them the truth, they hated Him and planned to put Him to death.

How could Jesus love people like that? Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. He said, "I came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." But who is righteous? There is none righteous, no not one. We all need Jesus. Without Him we are unrighteous; we are all sinful. We can only become righteous by letting Jesus come into our hearts and control our thoughts and actions. It is only through Jesus that we can love our enemies.

Jesus died on the cross for His enemies. He said, "Father forgive them; for they know not what they do." Jesus loved His enemies even though they nailed Him to the cross. If Jesus did that for us, how can we hate anyone?

After Jesus rose again from the grave and went to Heaven, Peter preached to the people and said, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ." Now when they heard this, they were pricked to their heart and said unto Peter and the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" When they realized what they had done to Jesus, the Son of God, they knew they were guilty. Do you know that if you sin you are just as guilty as they? That's why Jesus had to die on the cross — because people are sinful. It was the only way that God could forgive sin. Jesus paid the price so you and I could go free — if we only will choose to let Jesus control our lives.

Peter told those people, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." This is the only way we

can love our enemies. We should not love their sinful ways but we should love their souls. We should want them to come to Jesus, too, and receive the promise of forgiveness and eternal life.

Can you love your enemies? Yes, you can if you let Jesus come into your heart. When you receive His Holy Spirit, then you can be like Jesus. You can love your enemies like Jesus did.

Brother Rudy Cover

EXHORTATION

"For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: He that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness." Romans 12:4-8.

"Exhortation," in Romans 12:8, means "to stimulate faith, to spur on." God's exhortation to Abraham and to any of His children is in Genesis 17:1, "I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect."

The believer with the gift of exhortations wants everyone to take up the banner of faith and march toward the high calling in Christ Jesus, Phil. 3:14.

Consider Barnabas, "who, when he came," to Antioch, "and had seen the grace of God," in those recent converts, "was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. For" Barnabas was a righteous man, "and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord." Acts 11:23-24.

Exhortation spurs the believer onward. "The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd." Eccles. 12:11.

We have been called with an holy calling. The exhorter assures the believer, with Scriptures and experiences, that the Lord knows the way.

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord... though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with His hand." Psalms 37:23-24. "For thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness." Psalms 18:28.

Paul's exhortation in I Thessalonians 4:1 echoes God's,

"Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

The exhorter is to rejoice "in hope," be patient "in tribulation," and continue diligent "in prayer," Romans 12:12. He is to hear the Lord's command regarding the tabernacle, in Exodus 27:20, "...Bring thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamp to burn always." The exhorter is to stimulate the believer to be "...like a green olive tree in the house of God..." Psalms 52:8, to claim that high calling in Christ Jesus.

"...(We beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." John 1:14.

Brother C. L. Frost

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

PART 9

In this, the fifth Dispensation, we have the Law of God given to Israel, through Moses. This was the Law, which was so often spoken of by the Apostle Paul and others, as the Law of Works. That law was to be "Theocratic." We believe, as revealed by the Holy Scriptures, that it must have been God's intention, at first, to rule His first, chosen people Israel, without an earthly King, in the nature of a fleshly kingdom. He would rule His earthly people through representatives of men. He would appoint or choose many leaders, from Moses on down through David to Christ, His Son, the coming seed, who was to rule His people Israel.

Again, we repeat their government was to be Theocratic. At this point, we wish to give our readers references from the Holy Scriptures, showing that God was the Supreme Law Giver to all previous dispensations of the world and especially to this fifth Dispensation, the Law of God through Moses. Isa 33:22; Isa. 51:4; James 4:12, "There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?"

In the Dispensation that we are studying, Moses was chosen by God, to act as His Law Giver to the people, Exod. 34:31-32; Deut. 4:44; Deut. 33:4. John also said, John 1:17, "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." Also John 7:19, "Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Why go ye about to kill me?" These were Christ's own words. "This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear. This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in

Mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us: To whom our fathers would not obey, but thrust him from them, and in their hearts turned back again into Egypt. Saying unto Aaron, Make us gods to go before us: for as for this Moses, which brought us out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him." Acts 7:37-40.

At this point let us note God's preparation of Israel to receive His Ceremonial Law. The following Scripture will reveal their preparation, Exod. 19:7-9; Exod. 20:1-17. These reveal the Ten Commandments. For all these Israel despised God's Law. II Chron. 36:16, "But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against his people, till there was no remedy." Yet, notice, notwithstanding this, it did not disannul the fact, that God had enjoined the keeping of their law. Please read the following references, Deut. 17:18-19; Josh. 23:6; I Chron. 22:12; Psalms 28:7.

They were a rebellious house, a rebellious people, as proclaimed by David and the other Prophets, Psalms 78:10; Isaiah 30:9; Isaiah 1:3-4; 9; 20; 23; Isaiah 5:24; Jer. 6:19; Jer. 9:13; Hos. 4:6; Amos. 2:4. Then Jesus sums it up by saying in Mark 7:9, "And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition." The natural result was that Israel's Ceremonial Law was abolished in Christ. Eph. 2:15-16, "Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that might reconcile both unto God (meaning both Jew and Gentile) in one body (the Church) by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby."

Also, as we have shown previously in these articles, Col. 2:14, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross." The writer to the Hebrews clears it up in the following, Heb. 10:1, "For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect." "And this word, yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken may remain." Heb. 12:27. Hence we now have, in the sixth Dispensation, the Dispensation of Grace, a better law based upon better promises. We have now given to our readers the Law between God and the children of Israel. We will now take up their sacrifices for sin.

At the beginning of this discussion, let us note the Doctrine of the "ATONEMENT," briefly. The sacrifices of Israel's Dispensation (the fifth) were, as the sacrifices of the previous Dispensation's, a

sacrifice of the blood of animals, fowls, pigeons, and so forth. The law for these sacrifices is found in the following Scriptures. Lev. 4:20; Exod. 29:14; Lev. 8:34; Lev. 10:17; Exod. 30:10; Lev. 16:6-10; all these were for a Sin offering. Now, note the purpose of these sacrifices, which show they are of blood or the shedding of blood. The Word tells us, Lev. 17:11, "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh atonement for the soul." Before leaving our discussion of these sacrifices of blood, under the law, we have a few more scriptures concerning Israel's sacrifices for sin. Let us read carefully the following references: Lev. 4:3; 6:25, 9:15, 10:17; Num. 15:27. These scriptures show fairly well the "Atonement and Sacrifices," of the fifth Dispensation, the Dispensation of "Law and Works." They show also that Israel's Law was an imperfect Law, hence God gave to the next Dispensation (the sixth), the Dispensation of Grace, a New Law and a New Covenant.

Let us now distinguish between and compare LAW and GRACE. We turn now to Heb. 9:1-28. This is a very important Bible Doctrine and we should learn it well. Verses 1-10, "Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary (meaning the dispensation of Law). For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary. And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercy seat; of which we cannot now speak particularly. Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God. But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people: The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: Which was a figure for the time then present (meaning under the Law), in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation." These verses just cited shew the "imperfection of the legal sacrifices, in what is called, the legal dispensation."

Now we will compare this to the "perfection of the law in the

dispensation of grace." Heb. 9:11-15, "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building (the building of the earthly house, or tabernacle); Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament (the Old Law), they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance." This is the Eternal, Spiritual inheritance through Christ, the Seed of Abraham; therefore we have Israel's Spiritual inheritance outlined in Holy Writ, as well as an earthly heritage.

In continuation of this comparison of the two Covenants, Law and Grace, we will, because of their importance, read and bring into discussion all the remaining verses of Hebrews 9. Beginning with verse 16, "For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead; otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth. Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood. For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, this is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: Not yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; for then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." Hence Christ is the one and only sacrifice for sin.

So, man after this one sacrifice of Christ must give an account of his life to God. "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

The Hebrew writer sums up these things in Heb. 10:11, "And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins."

Brother William Root

OBITUARY

ETHEL MINNICH

Sister Ethel Minnich was born May 7, 1913 at Glendora, California. She passed away January 21, 1979 at the Mt. Hope Dunkard Brethren Old Folks Home where she had been a resident for the past few years. Young in life, Sis. Minnich became a member of the Church of the Brethren, and for the past nine years had been a member of the Dunkard Brethren Church, Frystown, Pennsylvania.

Funeral services were held at the Dunkard Brethren Church, Frystown with burial at the Spring-Creek Church of the Brethren Cemetery, Hershey, Pennsylvania. Brethren David Kegerreis and Jack Snyder officiated at these services.

MARRIAGE

ST. JOHN - EBY

Sister Laranda K. St. John, daughter of Elder and Sister Dean St. John, Camden, Michigan and Bro. Lloyd C. Eby, son of Bro. and Sister George Eby, Wauseon, Ohio, were united in marriage May 12, 1979, at the home of the bride's parents. The new couple is at home at 1-7512-19, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.



BE CAREFUL

How you spend your time is more important than how you spend your money. Money mistakes can be corrected, but time is lost forever.

— David B. Norris

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGES

Add to the ministerial list:

Bro. Wilbur L. Uplinger (M)

R. 1, Box 11

Mt. Crawford, Virginia 22841

The new address and telephone number of Elder David F. Ebling is R. 1 Box 300A, Bernville, Pennsylvania 19506, 215-488-7185.

BROADWATER, MARYLAND

The Lord willing, the Broadwater Congregation will have an eight day Revival Meeting, July 28 through August 5 with Elder Jacob Ness of York, Pennsylvania as our evangelist.

Saturday, August 4 there will be services at 2:30 p.m. with Love Feast in the evening.

A cordial invitation is given to all to come and enjoy these meetings with us.

We ask an interest in your prayers for the salvation of souls and that the Church may be built up in that most Holy Faith.

Sister Bertha Dorsey, Cor.

WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND

The Lord willing, the Walnut Grove Congregation will hold a series of Revival Meetings from July 20 through July 29, 1979. Elder Edward Johnson of Wauseon, Ohio, will be the Evangelist.

We invite each one to come and enjoy these meetings with us. Pray that the Church may be strengthened in the work of the Lord and that more souls may be saved.

Sister Betty Shelly, Cor.



A GENTLE WORD

One gentle word that we may speak
Or one kind, loving deed,
May, though a trifle, poor and weak
Prove like a tiny seed:
And who can tell what good may spring
From such a very little thing?

Author unknown

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Lester Fisher
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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 14

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

CROWNED OR CRUCIFIED?

I stood alone at the bar of God,
In the hush of the twilight dim,
And faced the question that pierced my heart;
"What will you do with Him?
Crowned or crucified? What shall it be?"
No other choice was offered to me.

I looked on the face so marred with tears,
That were shed in His agony.
The look in His kind eyes broke my heart;
'Twas full of love for me:
"The crown or the cross," it seemed to say;
"For or against Me — choose thou today."

I knelt in tears at the feet of Christ,
In the hush of the twilight dim,
And all that I was, or hoped, or sought,
Surrendered unto Him.
Crowned, not crucified; my heart shall know
No king but Christ who loved me so.

Author unknown

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

REMINDERS

The Tabernacle, and later the Temple, was divided into two rooms. The first room was the Holy Place where the Priests ministered daily. The second room, the Holy of Holies, was entered only once a year by the High Priest, when he offered the atonement for the sins of himself and the people. Among the items in that room were the golden pot of manna, Aaron's rod that budded and the Tables of the Law. These items were reminders to the Jews. Although only the High Priest saw these things, the people knew they were there and could think upon them.

The golden pot that contained manna reminded them of God's provision for their bodies. They had heard often of the Wilderness journey of their ancestors and knew God had miraculously provided manna for them. Although it had been loathed at times, it was God's means of delivering them physically. This potful was a reminder of His care and that His provision was far better than the foods they had craved.

Aaron's rod that budded was a reminder that God has an order and a government among His people. Moses and Aaron had been ordained by God but others rebelled against God's government. When the test of the twelve rods came, only Aaron's rod budded — not only did it bud but brought forth almonds in one day. This showed not only who were established by God but also the fruitfulness of God's order and organization. This rod was kept in the Holy of Holies as a reminder to Israel that rebellion would not be tolerated.

The tables of stone were a reminder of the Word of God. The law of God had been etched upon these stone tables. This was the

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Word of God. These tables reminded them that the Word of God is permanent and unchanging. The Word He had spoken was to be kept and continued in all their generations. Too often they were prone to follow the trends of the World but this served as a reminder that God's Word was still the standard their lives were to be measured by.

Being human, Christians also need reminders of God's provision and rule. In the ordinances and practices of the Church we find reminders of God, Christ and godly living.

Christians assemble on the Lord's Day for worship and fellowship. While all days of the week offer the opportunity for serving God, the First Day serves as a reminder of the Resurrection of Jesus. Our minds are refreshed with thoughts of the salvation wrought through His Resurrection. We should make regular use of this reminder.

The prayer covering is a reminder to the wearer and those who observe her. All are reminded of the need and the power of prayer. It serves to remind the wearer that not all activities are consistent with that prayer veil. The wearer is also reminded of the relationship of men, women and God. The covering acknowledges God's order in the family and society showing man to be the head of woman. The man who sees the covering may be reminded that Christ is his head.

Plain dressing serves as a reminder that God wants His People to be different from the surrounding world. God wants a people modest not only in dress but in deeds as well.

Probably the greatest reminder given to Christians is the Lovefeast service. Here is a reminder of the commands of God, that need to be carried out, and of Jesus our Saviour. Feetwashing is a reminder of humility and service but it reminds us as well of the way to happiness. Jesus' instructions show an actual act that needs to be done in order that promised happiness or blessings can be ours. The Lord's Supper reminds us of the supper Jesus ate with His Apostles in the evening before His betrayal. Here is a reminder of a tender and loving fellowship. It reminds not only of the past but of a promised Marriage Supper of the Lamb in the future. Then Jesus will serve and minister to those who have a part in the unending fellowship of Heaven. The communion, the bread and the cup, reminds us very solemnly of the broken body and shed blood of Jesus. Jesus meant for this ordinance to be a reminder to us. "That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the

cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." I Cor. 11:23b-25.

We have been given many reminders of God's provision for us physically and Spiritually. We now must use them for their intended purpose. How good is your memory?

IF YOU ARE IN A VALLEY

"If you are in a valley, farm it." So stated a minister in a Sunday morning message. Just what is a valley and how can we farm it? A valley is an area surrounded by mountains. The most fertile soil is in that valley, the protected area, not on the mountain peaks where vision is unlimited. When someone is going through a time of testing or heartache, we say that one is going through a valley, for they are surrounded by spiritual mountains. We soon recognize a valley but finding a way to farm it is another matter.

You can think of a valley in two ways, either a place where you are hemmed in or a place where you are protected. The valleys are where we live. We have mountain-top experiences, spiritual highs or peaks, but we don't live there. We know we are to walk by faith, not by sight (II Cor. 5:7), but it is easier said than done. Our hearts desire to see, to know what's ahead, but in a valley, our vision is limited. The difference between feeling hemmed in and protected is whether we can trust the Lord. We must trust Him if we want peace. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." Isa. 26:3.

The natural valleys on this earth are generally the most fruitful, not the mountain peaks. The valleys we go through can be farmed and made to yield fruit just as in the natural valleys. In I Sam. 6:13, we are told of people reaping wheat in the valley. Song of Solomon 6:11 speaks of the fruits of the valley, 2:1 of the lily of the valleys. (Did you ever hear of a mountain-top lily?) These valleys yielded natural fruit. Ours should yield the fruit of the Spirit, such as love, joy, peace, gentleness, faith. Gal. 5:22-23.

To farm a valley is to make it productive, to cultivate and weed out the undesirable things so the desirable things can grow. Without farming, a valley would probably just grow wild. With farming, growth and fruit-bearing happen during the trials of life. The greatest growth may come during the most ordinary trials, but however it comes, it is a time of cultivation. It is a time when God weeds out our undesirable qualities, so that which is desirable can grow and bear fruit.

The distress caused by a trial may not be ordinary at all, but whatever comes, God is able to help us. He will place a limit on

what we have to bear so we are not overwhelmed by it. Sometimes God hems us in by a trial for our own good. If we had no obstacles, often we would do something which would only hurt ourselves and others. Even though frustrating, such obstacles are a protection which we can see later after the crisis has passed.

Our growth is not complete without love. We can understand alot, we can do alot, even have faith, but without love, it's worthless. While we are in these valleys, it is love which keeps us kind. It is love which keeps us from being easily provoked and short-tempered. It is love which enables us to rejoice in the truth, to bear all things, to believe, hope and endure. Even though everything else fails us, love won't, for genuine love comes from God. See I Cor. 13.

When you see someone in a valley and in great distress, what is your response? Psalms 65:12b says "the little hills rejoice on every side." If you are on your way up or already rejoicing on a mountain-top, you are in a position to encourage those who are down. You may be tempted to criticize their lack of faith or poor attitude or whatever you think is wrong, but try praying for them instead. You are on the hillside above your problem, so you should be able to rejoice. While they are still in the valley, try offering hope, that the valley is not forever and when the end comes, they, too, will be blessed. After all, did you always stay in high spirits when you went through your valley?

Springs in the valleys are mentioned in Psalms 104:10. Isaiah 41:18 tells of fountains in the valleys. Psalms 23:2 says, "He leadeth me beside the still waters." These still waters are found only in the valleys and are its source of life. A stream flowing down a mountainside is anything but quiet; it churns and foams as it tumbles over rocks and other obstacles until it reaches the valley. Water is necessary to life; Jesus, the living water, is necessary to our spiritual lives. He will be in the valleys with us to give us life and peace as well as when we are on the mountain-tops.

The Syrians once thought the God of Israel was only a God of the hills, so the Israelites would be easy prey if attacked on the plain. See I Kings 20:23-28. Much to their surprise, they were delivered into Israel's hands. Our God is God of the valleys as well as the hills. His strength can be ours wherever we are, whatever our problem. The battles always come in the valleys, those times of learning God's will for our lives. On the mountain-tops are the times of great joy after the victory. Someone has written a song with these words "In the valley He restoreth my soul." To restore is to bring back or renew, and when that happens to you and the valley is past, you have something to praise God for!

If you are in a valley, let it bring you closer to the God who allowed it. If you've just passed through a valley, praise Him for the victory which is yours. "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way." Psalms 37:23.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

RESISTANCE AND SEPARATION

We notice in the time of the Apostles some resisted truth and righteousness and not evil. Our duty is to resist evil and to be separate from its forces. "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you." We must resist all that will turn us away from the saving Gospel of Christ. "And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him." Zechariah 3:1. "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye." Acts 7:51. "Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth ye yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?" Romans 9:19. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation." Romans 13:2. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith." II Timothy 3:8.

When we stand for truth and righteousness we resist all evil and are separated from its forces. "Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin." Hebrews 12:4. "Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world." I Peter 5:9. If others try to get us to do evil we must resist in order to be true Christians. When we take a firm stand for truth and righteousness we stand for Church discipline. Righteous resistance sometimes leads to separation. The Church was organized as a people separate from the evils of the world and so we may continue in the path of truth and righteousness.

Resisting evil leads to separation from it. We cannot walk with the great evils of the world and condemn them. When we are not separated from the evil forces of the world we become separated from God. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." II Corinthians 6:17-18. We are called by the Lord to be a separate people. A separation from unbelievers is his plan for his people. "... For what fellowship hath

righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness." II Cor. 6:14. We should not fellowship the unfruitful works of darkness but rather reprove them. "These be they who separate themselves sensual, having not the Spirit." Jude 19. As for the true and faithful. "For such an highpriest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heaven." Heb. 7:26. When God's people under the Old Law mixed with the heathen nations they lost their favor with Him. God's call has separated people. The Apostle Paul was separated from Demas because he loved this present world.

In the world there are mixers. God is calling for a separate people to live true to Him. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." Resistance against evil leads to separation from it. We need the path of truth and righteousness.

John the Revelator was separated from all mankind. He received wonderful revelations from Above through his service to the Lord. We have a part of the Gospel of Christ written by John the Revelator. While on the lonely isle of Patmos, John had a vision of God's throne. He knew of the condemnation of false doctrine and the Church of false prophets, also the dying Church and the loyal Church. The fate of the wicked was revealed to him. He also described the beautiful place where the faithful will spend eternity.

Do we resist all evil? Are we among God's chosen people, separate from the world? May our resistance always stand for truth and righteousness. Our duty is to resist evil and to be separate from it.

There is a day coming when there will be a great separation, when the chaff from the wheat shall be thoroughly fanned and the righteous shall shine like the stars in the sky and live and abide at the Saviour's right hand. This is the Glorious Place that John the Revelator looked upon while on the lonely Isle of Patmos.

Brother J. F. Marks
R.D. 3 Box 509,
York, Pennsylvania 17402

BE NICE TO SPIDERS

This morning I happened to pick up one of the grandchildren's library books. On the front cover the title read, "Be Nice to Spiders." This drew my attention, so I started reading the book. The story was about a spider named Helen that lived at a zoo. It explained how Helen spun her web. First she made a small spiral, and then she continued until she had spun a large spiral, all very sticky.

When Helen had finished her trap, she sat in the center and waited. One by one the flies got caught in the sticky web. And one by one Helen ate them.

We all know that a spider web is hard to see in certain places, and that is where it catches the most flies. With the same tactics, Satan sets hidden traps for us poor humans. If he can get us to come near to sin, he may tempt us to yield a little at a time. Finally he has us wrapped up so badly that it is almost impossible to get out.

Let us take the smoking habit, for example. It usually starts in slowly, but finally a person has the habit. There are thousands of people who wish they had never started and try to quit. But the temptation is so great and the habit so strong, that many of them cannot quit when they want to.

I know of quite a few cases, though, of people whose health was ruined by lung cancer or emphysema, and then after it was too late, they could quit on doctor's orders. I have seen a small sticker that reads, "Cancer cures smoking."

This is too bad, and I feel sorry for such people. I know of a minister who told the bishop he was fully agreed with him to work against the use of tobacco in the church. But what happened later? The bishop happened to meet the minister unexpectedly, and he was smoking a cigarette. How embarrassed he was. He had the desire to quit, and he knew it should be discouraged, but the spider's web was wrapped so tightly around him that he could not resist the habit.

This is not being written to look down upon someone else. These snares are set for me as well as for anyone else, and I know it.

I am thinking now of another kind of dangerous web — the habit of speaking the untruth. Once the habit is formed, it is very difficult to break it. How sad! The Bible says plainly there isn't much hope for a liar. I'll give just one example to show how a person can get entangled in this snare.

Once upon a time a false report was started. Then the person who had passed on the report was asked who had told him about it in the first place. The answer was, "I don't remember." The person was asked again and gave the same reply. Then he was asked again and again. Finally he said who had told him.

Later he was asked if he hadn't said the untruth by saying, "I don't remember." He didn't answer. But he was asked again. Finally he said he will admit it was an untruth if that is what it takes to satisfy the person who was asking.

The answer was, "No, I want the truth. If you say you didn't your word will be accepted and if you say you did, it will also be accepted."

Finally he admitted he had told the untruth. And yet, later, he changed his story again and said he had confessed just to satisfy the party. I know this sounds impossible, but it shows what can happen if we get tangled in the spider's web. The only way to get free is to turn to the good Lord for help.

Still another entangling habit is drinking. I hope our young folks will all take heed and refrain from drinking, as it has broken up many a home that could just as well have been a happy marriage. There have been many drunkards laid in a deep grave, and if they were laid in the grave as a drunkard they will rise as a drunkard. And we all know the next scene, which is to appear before a righteous Judge.

Here on earth we can talk back and make all kinds of excuses, and try to defend ourselves. But that will be one time when excuses will not do any good. The verdict will be either, "Come," or "Go."

So let us take heed and be aware of the nets and snares that our Enemy has set for us. It is better to stay away from the spider's webs than to get caught and wish we could break loose.

Selected from Young Companion by
Brother Willard Beam

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

PART 10

(Continuation of the Fifth Dispensation of the World)

Having shown the Law and the sacrifices of the Old Dispensation, before we take up the topic of Israel becoming a world Kingdom, we want to show them as the first of God's "Elect." It is our purpose, at this time, to reveal by the Holy Word of God, who are God's and Christ's Elect, spoken of in the New Testament.

What is the meaning of the word "Elect?" First it means, generally, "to pick out, to select from two or more, to determine in favor of;" second, "to select or take for an office or employment from among a number, to select or show preference for;" third, in theology (which applies to the Holy Scriptures), "to designate, choose, or select as an object of mercy or favor." There is no other way for you or I to determine who God's elect are except by a thorough research of His Holy Word. Then we can not know definitely this mystery. "For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?" Rom. 11:34.

Nevertheless the Apostle Paul has pointed out for us the Church of Christ, who are His chosen. Eph. 1:4, "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." And the next

verse says, "Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will." We find that in God's first choice of the children of Israel, to become His "Elect," He promised them a "Redeemer," a Saviour, a coming "Seed," who was Jesus Christ, who chose His elect Body, the Church, who were chosen in Him before the foundation of the world.

Let us carefully study the Word of God to see if we can determine, who are the "Election" of God's Grace? Rom. 11:5-8, "Even so then at this present time (Paul's day) also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. And if by grace (the New Dispensation in Christ), then is it no more the works (no more of Israel's Dispensation): otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works (under the Law of Israel), then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work. What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election (the Church) hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded. (According as it is written, God hath given them (Israel) the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day." Hence we are made to believe by this Word, that although Israel was God's first-chosen Elect, they lost their "election" by rejecting Christ, their Messiah and Saviour of the world. John 1:11. Please read and understand what is called the Golden Text of the Bible. John 3:15-16.

We think it was not only God's purpose to save His people Israel, who would live under His first imperfect Law, but to save all in the Dispensation to come, who would accept His Salvation, through His Son Jesus Christ. This includes the faithful of the Church Dispensation.

Reader, Do you get the picture? Israel lost their right as the Elect of God, hence the saints in Christ, the Bible, were adopted Sons of God, therefore they became God's and Christ's Elect. Hence, it seems God had a Divine plan, for calling out a people for His Elect and for the salvation of the world.

He first called Abraham, a man of Faith, to begin to accomplish His divine purpose. He made a covenant with him. He made it an Everlasting Covenant and He confirmed it to his seed, which extended through David's seed to Christ and His seed. God's promised inheritance to Israel was an everlasting inheritance. God's promises are sure. Yet His promises were made to Israel, as a chosen people, a chosen "Elect" only on the condition of their obedience to Him. This also is our only hope in the Dispensation of Grace. Carefully read, Heb. 5:8-9, "Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being

made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him."

The suffering of Christ began when yet a babe. "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against." Luke 2:34b. At the very beginning of His ministry we find, "And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And arose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong." Luke 4:28-29. What saved Christ from severe treatment and perhaps death? No doubt His unfearing faith in God. He did not panic nor fight back, but trusted in God and walked away through their midst undetected.

The fact that Jesus knew ahead of time the many sufferings, which would befall Him if He should remain true unto God, would have been a very severe suffering. "Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour." John 12:27. The agony and dread of soul and mind trouble is very severe. What did Christ decide to do about this? Take His own life? No! He simply trusted in God and pleaded that the Father would save Him. Dear Reader, regardless of what befalls us, God will save us if we are true and faithful unto Him.

"Then said Jesus unto Peter, Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?" John 18:11. Perhaps God gives us cups of suffering, that we might give witness of our faith in Him. Do we thank Him and determine to bear them? Or do we complain, try to avoid them and perhaps even deny our Lord? We find the Apostle Paul, "Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ." Acts 17:3. Is this our witness, whenever place and opportunity will permit it or do we hide our light?

"Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God." I Pet. 4:1-2. We have many and vast opportunities to be His faithful servants. Why not be? God is supreme. God cannot be hindered in His plans and He will recompense with blessings, which we are unable to imagine. God rewarded Christ with the coveted blessings: resurrection and a seat at His right hand. God will reward us with similar undeserved blessings.

It seems that God may have intended that salvation to the whole world would come through His people Israel or Judah. We remember, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of

God." The promised Shiloh or Messiah was promised to come through Israel and Judah. Gen. 49:10, "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." Christ was the Shiloh to come. But alas! alas! "He came to his own (Israel), and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." John 1:11-12. Hence, only those who believe on or in Christ, Jews or Gentiles, are Christ's Elect and become the sons (Elect) of God and born into His Kingdom, "THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST." Hence, the Church is Christ's Elect.

— To be continued
Brother William Root

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

A MAN OF GREAT FAITH

MATTHEW 8:15-13; LUKE 7:1-10

How much faith do you have? Do you believe that Jesus can do anything? Do you believe He could make you well if you were sick and ready to die?

One time Jesus came to a city called Capernaum. A man who was a centurion lived there and had a servant who was very sick. A centurion is a man who is captain over one hundred soldiers. This man sent elders of the Jews to Jesus to ask if He would come and heal his servant. The elders explained to Jesus that the centurion was a very good man, that he loved the Jewish nation and had even built a synagogue for the Jews. A synagogue was a place to worship God like our churches.

Of course Jesus knew the centurion, just like He knows everybody — even you and me. Jesus went with the elders who took Him to the centurion's house. When they came near the house the centurion came to Jesus and said, "My servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented." (The disease called palsy causes a person to shake and tremble and to be very weak.) Jesus said to the centurion, "I will come and heal him." The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy that you should come into my house but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it."

When Jesus heard what the centurion said, He answered, and said to them that followed, "Verily I say unto you, I have not found

so great faith, no, not in Israel." And Jesus said to the centurion, "Go thy way; and as thou hast believed so be it unto thee." And his servant was healed in that very hour.

Why did Jesus say the centurion had a faith that was greater than any He had found in Israel? It was because he believed absolutely that Jesus could heal and do the miracles that He did, that He was more than just a man. If He were more than a man, then He had more authority than man and had servants who would do whatever He asked of them. When Jesus was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane He said to Peter, "Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father and He would presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?"

Angels are obedient to Jesus. I would not try to explain how Jesus healed the centurion's servant, but we know Jesus can do anything because He has the authority from His Heavenly Father. Jesus just spoke the word and the servant was healed completely.

Can we have a faith like the centurion? We really can and we ought to. We have so much in the Bible about Jesus that the centurion did not know. Jesus died on the cross for everyone. It's up to us to believe in Jesus and to have faith that He will take us to a Beautiful Home in Heaven.

Brother Rudy Cover

FROM THE EDITOR

This issue marks the close of four years of the present Editor's service. It has been a time made enjoyable by the help of the Readers.

Your articles, selections and subscriptions have been necessary for this paper to continue. The most appreciated ingredient has been your prayers and encouragement.

Remember, the Bible Monitor will be what you make it. It is your prayers and your articles that will prove what kind of paper you really want. As you pray for the continual witness of the Bible Monitor, consider writing an article so its pages will be full of original material.

May God bless each of you and may you continue to hold the Bible Monitor and the Editor up in prayer. Thank you.



THREE WONDERS—There may be three things which will surprise us when we get to Heaven, — one, to find many there that we did not expect to find there; another, to find some not there whom we had expected; a third, and perhaps the greatest wonder, will be to find ourselves there.

NEWS ITEMS

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

The Lord willing, the Dallas Center, Iowa Congregation will hold revival services from July 22 to August 5, 1979. Elder David Skiles from Torreon Navajo Mission of Cuba, New Mexico is to be our speaker.

We welcome Bro. David into our midst and pray the Lord will fill him with an extra portion of the Holy Spirit for the work of these meetings.

We plan to have all day meetings on August 4 and 5. Lovefeast will be August 4 at 7:30 p.m. Worshipping the Lord together is a blessing we invite you to share.

Sister Juanita Reed, Cor.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Englewood Congregation is planning, the Lord willing, to have their Harvest Meeting on August 5. Bro. Edward Johnson has consented to bring us the message.

Services begin at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

We are looking forward, the Lord willing, to another revival meeting this summer. Arrangements have been made to have Bro. Fred Pifer from Dallas Center, Iowa as our evangelist.

The meetings will start August 12 for two weeks, closing August 26. Evening services will be starting at 7:30 p.m. We invite you to pray and come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.

SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND

The Swallow Falls revival for 1979 is planned to be one week later than the usual set date. This year the dates are August 24 to September 2, closing with the morning service followed by a fellowship dinner. Bro. Virgil Leatherman, Littlestown, Pennsylvania will bring the first four sermons, with Bro. Fred Pifer, Adel, Iowa continuing from Monday evening for the remainder of the week. The Lovefeast services will be September 1 at 2:30 p.m. and Evening services at 7:30.

We solicit your prayers for a closer walk with Him, and for the saving of souls, and also your presence at these meetings, that the Lord may be magnified and the Church built up.

Sister Ruth M. Snyder, Cor.

DAYTON, VIRGINIA

The Dayton Dunkard Brethren Church held services each evening from May 12 to May 20, observing our Lovefeast Saturday evening, May 19. Brother Virgil Leatherman, our Evangelist, gave us soul-stirring, spirit-filled messages. As a result of these meetings two teen-aged girls requested baptism. Let us pray that they and all members may remain faithful to our Heavenly Father who daily showers His blessings upon us.

Sister Hilda Strayer, Cor.

MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The Mechanicsburg Congregation enjoyed a revival from May 13 to 20, 1979. Brother Berton Smith, from Goshen, Indiana, brought Gospel messages freighted with the blessed old-time power. Since many Brethren and Sisters from our Sister Churches attended, we were blessed with good crowds. Our prayers follow Brother Smith as he continues to labor for Jesus.

Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AUGUST

Aug. 5 — Sennacherib Reproaches God. Isaiah 37:1-38 (36:1-22).
Aug. 12 — Fifteen Years for King Hezekiah. Isaiah 38:1-22 (39:1-24)
Aug. 19 — "Comfort Ye My People." Isaiah 40:1-31.
Aug. 26 — "Sing Unto the Lord a New Song." Isaiah 42:1-25 (41:1-29)

QUESTIONS:

- (1) Was Hezekiah a good King? Isaiah 37:15-20.
- (2) What was the sign the Lord gave to Hezekiah that the Lord would fulfill His promises? Isaiah 38:6-8.
- (3) Who is the prophet speaking of in Isaiah 40:9, 10, 11? John 10:11.
- (4) What is the new song that God's people are to sing? Rev. 15:3.



DAZZLING SUN—The Emperor Trajan once said to Rabbi Joshua, "You teach me that your God is everywhere and that He resides among your nation. I should like to see Him." "God's presence is indeed everywhere," said the Rabbi, "but he cannot be seen. No mortal eye can behold His glory." The Emperor still insisted. The Rabbi then took him into the open air at noonday and bade him look on the sun. "I cannot see," said the Emperor; "the light dazzles me." Then said the Rabbi, "Thou art unable to bear the light of one of His creatures, how then could'st thou look upon the Creator?"

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR AUGUST, 1979

DELIVERANCE

Memory Verse: 2 Kings 12:15

Moreover they reckoned not with the men, into whose hand they delivered the money to be bestowed on workmen: for they dealt faithfully.

Wed. 1 - 2 Kings 3:1-27

Thur. 2 - 2 Kings 5:1-14

Fri. 3 - 2 Kings 5:15-27

Sat. 4 - 2 Kings 12:1-21

Memory Verse: 2 Kings 17:39

But the Lord your God ye shall fear; and he shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.

Sun. 5 - 2 Kings 13:1-25

Mon. 6 - 2 Kings 17:1-20

Tues. 7 - 2 Kings 17:21-41

Wed. 8 - 2 Kings 18:1-19

Thur. 9 - 2 Kings 18:20-37

Fri. 10 - 2 Kings 19:1-19

Sat. 11 - 2 Kings 19:20-37

Memory Verse: 2 Kings 18:30

Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the Lord, saying, The Lord will surely deliver us, and this city shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.

Sun. 12 - 2 Kings 20:1-21

Mon. 13 - 2 Kings 21:1-26

Tues. 14 - 2 Kings 22:1-20

Wed. 15 - I Chron. 5:18-26

Thur. 16 - I Chron. 14:1-17

Fri. 17 - I Chron. 16:1-22

Sat. 18 - I Chron. 16:23-43

Memory Verse: 2 Kings 19:11

Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly: and shalt thou be delivered?

Sun. 19 - I Chron. 19:1-19

Mon. 20 - II Chron. 6:1-21

Tues. 21 - II Chron. 6:22-42

Wed. 22 - II Chron. 12:1-16

Thur. 23 - II Chron. 13:1-22

Fri. 24 - II Chron. 16:1-14

Sat. 25 - II Chron. 18:1-16

Memory Verse: I Chron. 16:35

And say ye, Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together, and deliver us from the heathen, that we may give thanks to thy holy name, and glory in thy praise.

Sun. 26 - II Chron. 18:17-34

Mon. 27 - II Chron. 24:1-14

Tues. 28 - II Chron. 24:15-27

Wed. 29 - II Chron. 25:1-13

Thur. 30 - II Chron. 25:14-28

Fri. 31 - II Chron. 28:1-27

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

WHO'LL BE THE NEXT?

Who'll be the next to follow Jesus?
Who'll be the next his cross to bear?
Some one is ready, some one is waiting;
Who'll be the next a crown to wear?
Who'll be the next to follow Jesus—
Follow his weary, bleeding feet?
Who'll be the next to lay ev'ry burden
Down at the Father's mercy seat?
Who'll be the next to follow Jesus?
Who'll be the next to praise his name?
Who'll swell the chorus of free redemption—
Sing, hallelujah! praise the Lamb?
Who'll be the next to follow Jesus,
Down thro' the Jordan's rolling tide?
Who'll be the next to join with the ransomed,
Singing upon the other side?
Who'll be the next? Who'll be the next?
Who'll be the next to follow Jesus?
Who'll be the next to follow Jesus now?
Follow Jesus now?

— Annie S. Hawks

SOME IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Many serious and life-shaping questions must be answered in this life. These questions surround the most important decisions that we must make. What kind of work should we make our lives' work? Whom shall we marry? Where shall we live? How much schooling should we pursue? How shall we spend and invest our money? These are a few of the many important questions that we each must answer. If we answer correctly there will be joys and prosperity for us. But if we make the wrong choices there will be a price to pay in unhappiness and perhaps poverty.

There are important Spiritual questions that also demand hard choices. These questions in the end will prove of even more importance than the questions dealing with our temporal lives. These questions have a bearing upon the eternal destiny of our souls. The questions concerning our temporal lives are but for time so if we do make the wrong choices the consequences are not eternal.

The question of greatest importance to us is, "whom say ye that I am?" Jesus had heard from the disciples the varying opinions about who He was. He then queried the disciples about who they individually believed Him to be. Peter gave answer, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." He recognized Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah, God's Anointed, and the Son of the living, all-powerful God of Heaven. Each one of us has to settle in our hearts, minds and souls who He is. Either He is the Son of God, who humbled Himself to live on Earth in the lowly form of mankind, that He might make the Way of Salvation and the forgiveness of

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our sins, or He is none of these things. It is a question we must answer. For He is either our Saviour or a fraud. Our answer to that question will determine the answer we give to other serious questions.

Following Peter's sermon on Pentecost, his hearers were so convicted that they posed a question that they and us need to answer. "Men and Brethren, what shall we do?" What would they and what will we do with this Jesus? When the earthquake shook the Philippian jail during Paul and Silas' praise meeting, the jailor's heart was softened and touched. His question was, "What must I do to be saved?" These questioners realized who this Jesus is and their soul's need. They wanted His saving power in their sin-hardened lives. We must not only pose these questions but we must follow the answers that were given. The need of faith, repentance and baptism are set forth as our means of having a saving relationship with Jesus. These questions present the need of doing something. To do nothing with the knowledge of who He is will but continue our downward journey.

When we consider the condemnation that all men are under until they become a child of God, it would seem each would want to avoid this end. This gives rise to another question, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" If we neglect the plan of salvation delivered to mankind by God through Christ Jesus, then there will be no escape. The solid, unbending pattern of sin will follow its inevitable course with no hope of escape. Because of the greatness of the price paid, salvation is great. Because of the greatness of the loss if it is neglected, salvation is great. Because of the singleness of the way, salvation is great. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." This limits the way to one way — through Jesus.

Paul wrote to the Romans, "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." We still have that terrible responsibility. After God has provided the way of so great salvation it would be foolish for us to neglect it and to lose it. The songwriter challenges us with the question, "Who'll be the next to follow Jesus?" It is a question for each to answer. Since each, who is of an accountable age and mind, is responsible for his response to this question, it would be wisdom for each to be the next one to follow Jesus.

If we make choice of this great salvation, we can face death and the grave fearlessly, and repeat the Apostle's questions, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" Death and the grave will hold no fear for those who have answered the question of who Jesus is and have been born into the family of God. But those who have neglected this opportunity will have a fearsome meeting with those foes.

For those who linger and those who neglect, there is one more question that the Apostle Paul asks, "Why stand we in jeopardy every hour?"

THERE'S NO POWER IN JUST A NAME

REVELATION 2 and 3

Are you a Christian or just a Church member? If you are not a good servant of the Lord, one who has fully surrendered to Him, you are just a Church member. On the surface you may look good, but the Lord knows your heart. There's no special power in the name of any group you belong to. A name, no matter how good, will not save you and it will not make you any better. In fact, it may be just a cover-up or a false security.

You can be in accord with your Church group and do everything just right as they ask — and still be lost. Your salvation is in Christ, the One who paid the price for your sins. Your strength to be true and faithful to the Lord comes through Christ, not your organization. Christians can encourage each other, but our power comes from Christ, for He said, "Without me ye can do nothing." John 15:5. Having a name of being alive — belonging to a Church — while in reality you are spiritually dead is meaningless. Good name or no — you're still lost.

"I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name." These people were commended for what they had and the way they lived. All of it was known to God and He placed His blessing upon them. God didn't bless them for belonging to the "right" Church, but for being faithful to Him and keeping His Word. God expects you and I to do the same — to be faithful to Him and to keep His Word. If we do that, we will be a benefit to the Church we belong to.

"Because thou sayest, I am rich (I belong to the right Church), and increased with goods (I wear the right clothes), and have need of nothing (I do all the right things); and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked." These people thought they had it all together, but all they had was self-righteousness. Self-righteousness is only as filthy rags, and it is worthless. The only way to get something worth having is to go to God for it.

"I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see." God alone can give us true spiritual riches, true spiritual raiment and true spiritual

vision or understanding. Gold tried in the fire is pure and it's valuable. People can make imitations, but God gives you the real thing. White raiment also indicates purity, and only God can make you pure. People can study the Bible as a history book or so they can argue about it, but it is God who makes it spiritually meaningful.

To each Church, God said, "I know thy works." He is not fooled, regardless of what we belong to nor how good our lives appear to be. Several were commended for their good points, then "I have a few things against thee." He knew of their faithfulness, their love and service, their tribulation and patience, but He also knew some were condoning sin, others had left their first love, and others were just plain spiritually dead. The remedy for these wrongs was to repent, and it is the same for us. We can't hide behind our Church membership, but we are to hold on to what is right and repent where we are wrong.

"Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, which are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God." Your Church may approve of the things you do, but what if God does not? Your friends and neighbors may accept what you do, but that won't save you either. If God is not pleased with your life, will it make much difference as long as people are not upset with you? Won't your Church membership and your good deeds count at least a little? "He that overcommeth" is the one who receives Eternal Life, not the "joiners" and the "do-gooders." It is necessary to please God.

Very often, an evangelist will say, "Won't you give your heart to the Lord and your hand to the Church?" He is recognizing that redemption is through Christ and that our hearts belong to Him. When we give our hands to the Church, we become co-laborers with others in the Lord's work. What if you get this in reverse, with your heart in your Church and all the Lord gets is your hand? Perhaps this is what makes a lukewarm Church, the kind that God will spue out of His mouth. If all you want is your Church and its many activities, and you shove God into the background, He won't want you either.

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. Our salvation is through Christ, then as a part of His body, the true Church, we are to help take the message of salvation to others. You can never pay the price of your sins, no matter how many good things you do or how many good organizations you belong to, for there is no power in these things. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the

Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." John 20:31. There is no power in just any name, but there is power — in Jesus' name!

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

A DEAD MAN SITS UP AND TALKS

LUKE 7:11-17

Have you ever been to a funeral and seen someone who was dead? People die everyday. We don't like to think about it but somewhere, someone is dying every minute of the day. I have never seen a dead person come to life again but when Jesus was here it happened several times. Jesus has power to raise the dead!

There was a widow of the town of Nain who had just one son. Her husband had died and I'm sure the son was her only means of support. In that time people didn't have social security, old age pensions and the like. If they had no one to make a living for them about the only thing they could do was sit on a street corner and beg. I don't believe anyone likes to beg, but in Jesus' time there were many beggars.

There came a time in this widow's life when her son, who was so necessary to her, died. I don't know whether he got sick or died of an accident, but die he did. Jesus came near unto this city of Nain with His disciples and the many others who followed Jesus. As they walked along they met a funeral procession. They were carrying the son of this widow on a bier, or a stretcher, to bury him. The widow was following her dead son to the cemetery where she expected to lay him away and never see him again in this world. She was weeping as most mothers would do when a child dies. I imagine this poor widow's heart was broken. She had lost a husband and now her only son was gone and she was left alone. What would she do now? How impossible life must have seemed to her.

As Jesus met the funeral procession He saw the widow weeping and had compassion on her and said, "Weep not." Then Jesus walked over to the dead son and touched the bier. Those who were carrying it stood still. Jesus spoke to the dead son and said, "Young man, I say unto thee, Arise." What do you think happened? If I would say to a dead person, "Sit up and speak," I don't think anything would happen, but when Jesus tells a dead man to get up, that person is going to do just that. And that is what the widow's

son did. He sat up and began to talk. He wasn't dead anymore! He was alive! Then Jesus took the man, alive and well, to his mother.

Do you think the widow quit weeping? Maybe not; maybe she had tears of joy. Jesus had brought her only son back to life. Now, she had hope for the future. Best of all, she had seen Jesus. He came into her life and changed things completely.

Has Jesus ever done anything for you? You know He has. Every good thing comes from God. Jesus can take your sins away and He can make you come to life. If you are only willing, you will sit up and speak for Jesus all the rest of your life.

Brother Rudy Cover

POWER

D. K. Marks

"And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49. These are the words and the command that Jesus gave to His disciples, after His resurrection, before He ascended into Heaven.

After Jesus left this world and ascended up into heaven the disciples obeyed this command and tarried in Jerusalem in prayer and supplication for ten days, then they received this great power that Jesus promised unto them. Bible readers all know the results of this power, especially the repentance and conversion of three thousand souls.

What helped the Holy Spirit to work so powerfully? The disciples were all obedient to God's word, they were all assembled in one accord in prayer to God.

Let us consider the power of electricity. It is carried from the power house on wires to a large city where many motors and large machines are put in motion to manufacture goods and every house in the city that has the live wire has an abundance of light. But when the electric wire is disconnected or broken on which the electricity is carried the machinery does not move, the city is without light and in darkness.

Let us think of the mighty power of God in the time when God told Joshua to cross the Jordan river when the waters were overflowing their banks. God commanded Joshua what to do in order that he and Israel could cross the river on dry ground. Joshua and all the people obeyed the commands of God, they all passed over Jordan in safety. Later they came to the large, strong walled city of Jericho. God gave Joshua and all the people instructions how to proceed for seven days. The first day they were to compass the city and go around it once, this they were to do for six days; on the

seventh day they were to go around the city seven times. They obeyed God exactly as He commanded them. The walls fell down flat; the victory was won; the children of Israel rejoiced.

Later Joshua sent his able bodied soldiers to take the small city of Ai. Here the Israelites were killed and defeated. The power of God was cut off from Israel. Why? Simply because one Israelite had disobeyed the command of God. This was sin in the sight of God. God told Joshua to find the hidden sin and destroy it. Joshua obeyed. God's power returned to Israel and they were victorious and prosperous.

Let us look at the Apostolic Church again. When the number had increased to over three thousand souls and all were obedient, the Holy Ghost was the great power of the Church.

We don't read about any sin in the church until after Barnabas sold his land and brought the money and laid it at the Apostles' feet. Ananias and his wife decided to sell their possessions, but kept back a part and gave a part of the money to the Apostles and told them they gave it all. Peter filled with the power of the Holy Ghost saw the hidden sin of Ananias as soon as he came into their presence and said, "Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost? Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God." Ananias hearing these words fell down dead, and they buried him. Afterwards his wife came into the presence of Peter, looking for her husband, perhaps. Peter questioned her and she also lied to the Holy Ghost and she fell down dead so they buried her beside her husband.

The Holy Ghost working in Peter would not allow sin to linger in the church. The result was that great fear fell upon the whole church. They were pure and holy. Multitudes of believers were added to the Church and many miracles were performed.

When the Apostle Paul was converted he was very much concerned that sin would be kept away from the Churches he had been leading. He comes with the message to the Roman brethren and to us. "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof." Rom. 6:12.

What is sin? Paul's answers, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey: whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness." Read Gal. 5:19-21 and see what the sinful works of the flesh are and their awful doom. "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?" II Cor. 13:5. "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nation." Rev. 2:26.

Selected by Brother J. F. Marks

A WONDERFUL SAVIOUR

Tenderly, Jesus called me to come and follow Him. He called me many times. I answered the call and accepted my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. It seemed to me, at times, I could hear Him say, "I've found thee, thou art mine." I seemed to see the nailprints in His hands. They made me realize that He had shed His precious blood for me. Many times I wonder what Jesus could see in my life that He was so willing to suffer such deep agony so my sins would all be blotted out and I could be His child. All my sins are covered by the precious blood of Jesus, which He has shed for you and me. Now as a dear child of God, I want to work for Him as I go forward in this life looking forward to the time, when all who are His dear children can go to our Heavenly Home.

So many lives are ship-wrecked, adrift in dangerous waters. The only port of rescue is the Church of Jesus Christ. Dear Christian friends, let us lay aside every weight, everything, that does not contribute to the rescue of lost souls. Throughout Jesus' life, here on this earth, He felt the urgent need of doing the works of His Father. Even at the early age of twelve years, He told His Mother, "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business." As Jesus worked here on earth to fulfill the work He was sent to do, so we as His children also have a work to do. Are we doing the chosen work of winning souls into the Kingdom of God?

When Jesus said, "The night cometh," it seems to me He was telling us that there is very little time left for us to work for the salvation of souls. Our Saviour urges us to join in the work of winning souls for His Kingdom. He wants us to work while it is day and we have the time. In Matthew He tells us to "Go work today in my vineyard." Jesus spent three short years here but they were very busy ones. He ministered to all the needs of men, both physical and spiritual. He was a teacher, the greatest in all the history of the world; a preacher, proclaiming the Gospel and the hope of life eternal; a never failing healer of the ills of life. I believe of His thirty-three main miracles about twenty-five were healings. He was not only just interested in the everyday ills of the body but above all He was concerned about souls. How many of us are interested in the souls of the people we meet day by day? He not only ministered to the needs of the body, but of mind and soul. Jesus knows what is needed before we ask. We must be busy and work if we hope to accomplish the tasks that our Master left for us to do. Let us, like the Apostle Paul, believe He is able to supply all our needs.

Selfishness is a sin. It has been with us throughout the ages, not at the present time alone. If we want to get rid of it and clean it up,

we must start with ourselves. It seems this old world is very busy, so many are on a treadmill by day and a merry-go-round by night and getting nowhere. They seem to make no progress. It seems they have learned how to make a living, but not how to live, which is very important. Everyone seems to be very busy working to get ahead in this life, but they seem to have lost the greatest thing on this earth which is: where they are going after all their working days have ended. Let us not put material things before the spiritual, lest we find that we have plenty to live with and nothing to live for.

"Ye are the light of the world." If one takes an ordinary piece of wire it looks useless, but if given the proper insulation and the proper contact, it will carry a great load of electricity and do an important work. The same with the life of an individual, when insulated from sin and selfishness and given the proper contact with the source of all spiritual power. It will be able to do a wonderful work in this old world, bringing the lost to Christ. You may have only one talent. Do you use it to further the cause of Christ or do you hide it? Dear ones it is later than we think. What kind of light are we showing? The greatest error any one can do is to reject Christ. Let us choose that which will endure. Let Christ be the chief corner stone of our Church, our Community, our own lives. Let us all abide in Faith, Hope and Love.

Sister E. M. Alltus

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from July 15, 1979 Issue

We find that Israel broke God's Everlasting Covenant and we understand their "Election" did not stand for a time. Isa. 24:5-6, "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitats thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left."

We believe this is future prophecy concerning Israel's earthly heritage at the end of this world. Our future argument will show how God will keep His promise to the "seed" of Abraham and of Israel, including the Church, and a remnant of "blinded Israel" as well. It will be through Jesus the Messiah, the Christ, who is called the Word. The word "Messiah" means: literally, "The anointed One," the expected "Deliverer," who will make reconciliation for iniquity.

During the Fifth Dispensation, Israel should have been, the heir of salvation for all men, but were they? Let us read Gal. 4:1-5, "Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from

a servant, though he be lord of all; But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father." We see here that the Old Dispensation was under a tutelage of the Law of God. Paul says, in Rom. 8:3, "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh." "Even so we (the Church), when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." Do we not see in this, God's foreordained plan for His Elect children, His Church? His Son, when He came was rejected by His own nationality who would not receive Him, so Gentiles as well as Jews were through the new birth made sons of God, John 1:11-13; John 3:3-5.

Therefore Jesus, when He came, reconfirmed God's promise to the fathers. This came about when Gentiles were adopted into the family of God, into God's Elect, as adopted children. Although Israel's eyes have been blinded for a time by rejecting Christ their Messiah, yet we understand that God will graft them back into His election, at the close of this Dispensation, after Christ comes to earth. See Rom. 11:8-28.

Though the Election of Israel was postponed or changed, for a time, we think, God will still give Israel whose eyes shall be opened to their Messiah, a chance. A remnant of them will receive their promised eternal inheritance and also an inheritance of their promised land in the Seventh Dispensation of man on the earth, after they have been grafted back into God's Elect. Hence, this will make both Jews and Gentiles adopted children in the Family of God and subjects of Christ in His Millennium. Paul says, Rom. 9:3-4, "For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises."

Therefore, we take the affirmative that the saints in Christ, His Church, His Bride, are His Elect in the sixth Dispensation of the world, in the Church Dispensation. NOTE: The promise to Israel of being God's Elect was only given to them on condition of their obedience to Him; the same is true of the Church, as being Christ's Elect.

As proof of this statement, we present our basic Scripture, recorded in Deut. 4:25-31, "When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land,

and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the Lord thy God, to provoke him to anger: I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed. And the Lord shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the Lord shall lead you. And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell. But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul. When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, (NOTE THIS:) even in the latter days, if thou turn to the Lord thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice; (For the Lord thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them." This shows that God will remember Israel in the last days, when they shall be grafted again into their own "olive tree." These promises were given to them under the Law and the Law was only "our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ."

Gal. 3:16-29, "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect." What promise? That the eternal inheritance, should come through Christ, Abraham's Seed. "For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise. Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one. Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. But the Scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor

free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." NOW OBSERVE THIS: "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

What promise? The promise made to Abraham. The inheritance of the Elect through Christ the seed of Abraham. Hence, we of the Church are Christ's Elect.

Brother William Root

DAME GOSSIP

A sociable body is Dame Gossip. She pays us frequent visits, never in pursuance of her own concerns, but always and forever bent upon broadcasting personals about others.

"Have you heard?" she begins confidentially, laying aside her hat and gloves; "Did you know?" she whispers, drawing her chair closer as we sit on the comfortable cool veranda; "And they do say" — she takes a parting shot in rising to bid us adieu.

At last we find ourselves alone again, but with confidence in the integrity of our fellow men well-nigh shattered. Who would ever have dreamed that Brother and Sister G. would do thus and so!

Never mind. Ten chances to one they did not. Madame Gossip prefers to believe the worst of everyone, and what is more, she enjoys telling the sordid tale with abundant variations and embellishments of her own invention. Remember this, and do not let her idle and oftentimes cruel words dim your outlook or shadow your uplook.

This is one of the most despicable of the seven deadly sins — the one which causes more heartache and sorrow and trouble than all the rest put together. When tempted to repeat something you have heard about a friend, an acquaintance, or even a stranger, see that it passes muster before these three sentries: First, "Is it true?" Second, "Is it necessary?" Third, "Is it kind?" If not, it would better, far better, be left unsaid.

A wise man once observed that we should have an eleventh commandment, reading "Mind your own business." Really, this is not a bad suggestion, is it? Let's trim the sails of our conversation carefully, very carefully, in the days to come.

— Selected from the Bible Monitor
by Sister Margaret Myers



Speak not but what may benefit others or yourself; avoid trifling conversations.

OBITUARY

SYLVIA SURBEY

Sis. Sylvia (Klepinger) Surbey was born in Miami County, Indiana on October 15, 1895 and departed this life at Stouder Memorial Hospital, Troy, Ohio on June 6, 1979 at the age of 83 years, 7 months and 19 days. She was the youngest daughter of Elder Davis P. Klepinger and Mary (Clingenpeel) Klepinger of Peru, Indiana. Two brothers and two sisters preceded her in death.

On March 16, 1930, Sylvia was united in marriage to Frank B. Surbey and moved to Stark County, Ohio. In 1942 they moved to Miami County, Ohio. After mutually sharing the joys and burdens of life for forty-two years, her companion departed this life, January 25, 1972.

Early in life she united with the Church of the Brethren and became a charter member of the Midway Dunkard Brethren Church in 1926. She was faithful to her vows until her death.

She leaves to mourn her departure, one daughter, Maxine of the home, and one step-daughter, Arlene Flora of Adel, Iowa; two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; one sister, Lennie Priser of Goshen, Indiana; one sister-in-law, Maude Klepinger of Peru, Indiana; and many nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to thank the brothers and sisters, neighbors and friends for their kindness, thoughtfulness and assistance during her illness and death.

Mother dear, you've gone away.
To a better land of peace and Joy.
You left behind all pain and sorrow,
All anxious thought about tomorrow.

The life that you lived was not in vain,
We feel our loss was Heaven's gain.
For each word of wisdom that you taught
Still lingers on within the heart.

Do justly, walk humbly, love mercy, be kind.
Most important of all in God's Word we do find
If we truly love God, His commandments we'll keep,
And at the end of life's race, true happiness reap.

These precious memories we will renew.
As the afterglow from the sunset's hue.
We hope to meet again in the skies,
When the trump shall sound and the dead arise.

by her daughter, Maxine

NEWS ITEM**NOTICE**

The new treasurer of the Trustee Board is:

Elder Warren C. Smith
McClave, Colorado 81057

Please continue to send all contributions to the secretary for his records.

Elder Ray R. Reed, Secretary

PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Lord willing, the Plevna Congregation will hold a two week Revival from August 19 through September 2. Brother Jack Snyder of Stevens, Pennsylvania will be the Evangelist.

Saturday, September 1, there will be services at 10:00 a.m. with a Lovefeast that evening.

On September 16 we plan a Harvest Meeting.

We invite all that can to come to these meetings. Please pray that souls may be saved through these efforts.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.



POOR RICH MAN—An aged wealthy man once took an acquaintance to see a splendid mansion. "This is all mine," he said. Then he pointed to a little town: "That is mine; it is called by my name." In another direction he pointed out farms extending for thirty miles. "These are all mine. I was a poor boy, but I made all this myself." The visitor looked at him and said: "Well, you have all this on earth, but what have you in Heaven?" "Well, I'm afraid I haven't got much up there." "Ah," said the visitor, "but you've got to die, to leave this world; what will you take with you of all these things? You will die a beggar, for all these riches count as nothing in Heaven." The poor old rich man burst into tears. He had no hope for the future. In four months he left it all.



COLORED PREACHER'S ILLUSTRATION—A colored preacher pictured a transaction in the councils of Eternity in man's behalf, about as follows: Heaven was searched in vain for one willing to redeem the sinful race. No angel was found able to stay the sword which Justice held over helpless humanity. But Jesus declared: "Father, prepare me a body, and I will go down there and settle it all; I will bear the punishment due them, I will give my life for them." Jesus paid it all.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THY WORD HAVE I HID IN MY HEART

Thy word is a lamp to my feet,
A light to my path alway;
To guide and to save me from sin,
And show me the heav'nly way.

Forever, oh, Lord, is Thy Word
Established and fixed on high;
Thy faithfulness unto all men,
Abideth forever nigh.

At morning, at noon, and at night,
I ever will give Thee praise;
For Thou art my portion, O Lord,
And shall be thro' all my days!

Thro' Him whom Thy Word hath fortold,
The Savior and Morning Star,
Salvation and peace have been bro't
To those who have strayed afar.

THE BIBLE'S VALUE

In an age when there is an increasing ignorance of the Bible and the Church, there is much misinformation concerning Christianity. Today many children never see the inside of a Church nor hear any teaching from the Bible. Even if they are not raised to oppose what is good, they are misinstructed in the true teachings of the Christian Church. The general opinion is a Christian is one who does not smoke or drink and is a good moral person. While these characteristics should be found in the Christian's life, they are but outward manifestations of what is within.

It is little to wonder at that the world's opinion of Christianity is so centered about the works and morality of a man. The educational system of the world continually exalts man and his efforts. This self-centered attitude causes man to overvalue his own works, opinions and morality. People are taught from little up to do what pleases them and to think only of themselves. So their religious thoughts center about their own works.

Christianity demands man's work and life-style be different from the surrounding world. But for these efforts to be of any Spiritual value they must be done from a heart that is in tune with God and separated from the world's system of thought and action. Deeds done only in man's physical strength are likened to filthy rags. For those rags to ever be of any value they must be cleansed in the blood of Jesus Christ. Any other attempt at cleansing will be a failure. Without being cleansed the rags would be fit only to be burned or otherwise destroyed. Man's self-centered deeds will neither make him a Christian nor pave his pathway to Heaven.

THE BIBLE MONITOR

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If man can not depend upon his own ideas, works or morality, what can he depend on? If his concept of Christianity is wrong, where can he find it's true consistency? The answer to these and all other Spiritual questions will be found in the Bible, the Word of God. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." II Tim. 3:16. The Bible is of value for many reasons. In the business affairs of this life men place great value upon those things which can be resold for a profit. They often can amass great wealth from these profitable items. In Spiritual affairs the Bible is profitable and valuable. Men may make a small investment of time and effort to read and follow its teachings and reap a great profit in their lives.

It is of value for doctrine, which is the teaching necessary for a Christian life. The ordinances of the Church are needful for a profitable, Spiritual life. These ordinances teach Heavenly lessons through deeds that are within our power to understand and do. The basis of our salvation lies in the Bible's teachings. Our salvation is laid upon a more solid foundation than the shifting opinions and plans of men. Since the Bible is as unchanging as God its Author, the plan offered for man's salvation is just as unchanging. Its doctrines which are concerned with the quality of our Christian lives are also unchanging. The Lovefeast Service, the prayer covering, nonresistance and nonlawing are some of the New Testament's fundamental doctrines designed for our Spiritual growth and for order in the Church.

Discipline has become a disliked word today. But the Bible has much to say in favor of self-discipline and Church-discipline. For discipline to be effective and profitable it must be Biblical. Reproof is a valuable part of Scripture. With an unchanging standard, variance from that standard can be seen and reproofed.

The Bible provides not only reproof but also correction. Since the Bible is a profitable Book it not only shows the error but the standard. It not only condemns but shows how to improve and to meet the standard. By showing what is correct, each person can examine himself impartially and see where he stands compared to that standard.

Our Christian lives are not lived entirely in perpetuating the doctrines and in self examination and improvement. Our lives are also to contain love, mercy and justice. We are to live not only for ourselves and our eternal reward but we must live to help those around whether they are in or out of the Church. The Bible is profitable for it points out our duties to our Brother and to the lost. The Bible holds before us a good life to be lived. We are given not

only the example of Christ's perfect life but the lives of many saints of old. Now it behooves us to follow these examples and to follow the righteous instruction given in God's Word.

The Bible is God's inspired Word. He designed it for our good. Is it profitable and valuable to you?

1979 GENERAL CONFERENCE NOTES

The Conference of 1979 is added to the history of our beloved Church. I feel that each one who attended felt that it was an outstanding Conference, one that will be long remembered. The Mission Springs Camp Ground and its surrounding natural beauty added to the feeling of God's nearness. Our physical comforts could not have been better cared for. The meals were especially well planned and very efficiently served.

Saturday morning nearly everyone gathered at the tabernacle for morning devotions. Bro. James Kegerreis gave a warm welcome to each one and made us feel the nearness of God.

Opening Devotions - Bro. Jacob Ness. Mark 9:2-10.

The beauties of the country through which the road leading to Mt. Herman, 9,000 feet high, wound brought thoughts of the times Jesus went to the mountains to be alone with God.

When Jesus is with us we have wonderful experiences. From the mountain top transfiguration of Jesus, Peter felt that he must have some work of human hands to remember their experience with Him but that was not Jesus' plan. He wanted to prove to His close disciples that He was really the Son of God.

Why did we come to Conference? Hopefully we will all leave Mission Springs feeling that we have had a mountain top experience with Jesus. May we get a glimpse of Jesus just as His disciples did.

Bro. Ness' closing prayer begged that we might find Jesus more precious through attending conference.

Closing Song: "He Hideth my Soul." This was written by Fanny Crosby. Her songs were used frequently throughout the Conference. It seemed that they were especially fitting. By her blindness God had become very real to Fanny and her songs portray His comfort and nearness in her life.

Saturday P.M.

Song Leader: Bro. Russell Berkenstock. "He Hideth My Soul."

Opening remarks: Bro. Dennis St. John. Let us try to gain a spiritual blessing from our being together.

Opening: Bro. Merle Swihart. Psalms 84.

Verse 10 gave his main thought. We are a privileged people to have such a wonderful place to hold Conference.

Song: "Break Thou the Bread of Life."

First Speaker: Bro. Paul Byfield. We are seeking mountain top experiences. Subject: God's Care for His Children. Psalms 23.

David felt that there was only one Person who could care for him. God is love and it covers every one of His children. What does God require of His children?

First: Whole hearted obedience.

Second: Observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.

Third: We have a standard but is it what the Holy Spirit demands of us. Adam made one mistake and lost favor in God's sight. Moses made a mistake when he struck the rock after God told him to speak to it and did not gain entrance to the Promised Land.

Noah obeyed the Lord in all His commands. Deut. 5:33.

Abraham obeyed when he offered Isaac on the altar. He had faith that God's word was true. Did Job serve God for nothing? Satan must ask God before he can tempt us. We must examine ourselves.

Song: "Trust and Obey."

Second Speaker: Bro. Milton Cook. Subject: The Measure of a Man. The things we use to measure each other.

First: How old are you?

Second: How tall are you?

Third: How much money do you have?

Fourth: How much land do you own?

Fifth: What kind of an automobile do you drive?

Sixth: How many children do you have?

Seventh: How big is your home?

Psalms 8:1, "Oh Lord how excellent is Thy name in all the earth! People make names for themselves in this world. Rockefeller for example. It is sad to see people following Satan rather than God. Balaam knew that God meant what He said and that he could not curse Israel. Psalms 8:4, "What is man that thou are mindful of him?" God's measure is far above man's measure as to the worth of man. The poorest man or woman who is following God is held in higher esteem by God than even the millionaire who is praised by the world.

Eph. 4:11-16 gives us a picture of God's perfect man. Let us use God's word as our measure. The Church should be guided by her Head and not by every wind of doctrine but by God's measure.

Closing Remarks: Bro. David Kegerreis. May we have come to Conference to be guided by God's measure. May we truly say, "I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of the Lord than to be

drawn by the call of the world." Gal. 2:20. Paul said I die daily. Man measures man by man's rule but let us measure by God's.

Song: "Anywhere with Jesus."

Saturday Evening

Song Leader: Bro. Henry Walker. "I am Thine O Lord." "Higher Ground."

Opening Remarks: Fifty one years ago the Dunkard Brethren Church was organized. Let us be one with God as Christ is.

Opening: Bro. Harley Rush.

We had a mountain top experience in our morning devotions. Rev. 21:1-10, 23-27. As we have made preparations for our trip to Conference did we think of preparations for our trip to the Holy City. Let us enter the gates of the Holy City.

Speaker: Bro. David Ebling. Luke 2:41-52. Subject: Have we Lost Jesus?

Can we lose Jesus? May this Conference be the means of bringing us closer to God. One chapter a day and five on Sunday means we can read the Bible through in a year. Go back to the place where we lost Jesus and we will find Him. A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. Luke 15:1-6. The coin didn't know it was lost. HOW can we lose Jesus? Young folks choose your companions among Christians. Our education today tends to draw our young people away from Christ. We CAN lose Jesus in the Church. Sin can cause us to lose even our physical lives.

Two boys were smuggling liquor into Canada by way of Niagara Falls. They became drunk and lost control of their boat. The liquor was lost and also their lives.

A woman and small boy were traveling by train to a friend's home who was meeting her on arrival. The conductor was to tell her where to get off but the train stopped to take on water and a passenger near her told her that that was her stop. She quickly got off with her baby. She soon discovered there was no one to meet her and no one around, but the train had pulled out. It was a bitter cold night and she and the baby froze to death. She had listened to the wrong person. Let's take God's Word only.

Closing: Bro. Paul Blocher.

It brings joy to go to the house of the Lord. David lost his peace when he sinned. His prayer to God was, "Restore unto me the joy of my salvation."

Bro. James Kegerreis: "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" If we are in business with Christ we will be ready to dwell with Him.

Sunday Morning

A beautiful morning and all nature proclaimed God's nearness.

Song Leader: Bro. Jacob Ness. "Sun of My Soul", "Blessed Assurance."

Speaker: Bro. Melvin Roesch.

We have found Him. His mother at the wedding feast said, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, DO IT." Phil. 3:10. If we have found Him and know Him we will be conformable to His will. There are forty cults in this world that do not have God as their head. Do mothers of today tell their children like Jesus' mother, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it."?

Song: "Take my Hand Precious Lord."

Sunday A.M.

Song Leader: Sis. Mildred Skiles. "Blessed Redeemer", "Thanks be Unto God for His Unspeakable Gift."

Opening: Bro. Galen Litfin.

We are so thankful for the privilege of meeting here to worship God. Psalms 100. Serve the Lord with gladness. Verse 3. How well do we know God? We have acquaintances but do we really know them?

Song: "He Hideth My Soul."

First Speaker: Bro. Warren Smith. Subject: Ye are the Light of the World. Matt. 5:14-16.

Ye are the light but not just for decoration. The welder's light cuts away the surplus. So should our light from the Word of God. We love the sunlight. Ponder the path of your feet. If you drive through mud the automobile lights will need polishing. Jesus brought us light and we must reflect it. The engine that is torn down and polished piece by piece, then put back together runs like new. We need to be put together piece by piece to be God's child.

Second Speaker: Bro. Hayes Reed. Subject: Fruits of the Spirit. Matt. 7:13-20.

Love. A strong feeling of affection.

The young man told his girl friend he would die for her and go to the ends of the world for her. As he left he said, "I'll see you tomorrow night — if it doesn't rain." Is this the way we show our love for Christ, to those who don't know Him?

Joy. To rejoice in. I Pet. 1:8.

Peace. A state of rest and quiet. Luke 2:13-14.

Long suffering. Christ is patient with us.

Gentleness. Being kind.

Faith. What we trust in.

God is light, love and life.

Closing: Bro. Charles Leatherman.

Sometimes we have to polish our light real hard to keep it bright. Maybe we don't have anything underneath to polish.

Sunday P.M.

Song Leader: Bro. Martin Meyers. "Victory in Jesus", "Burdens are Lifted at Calvary."

Opening: Bro. William Bashor. John 3:1-5.

Love not the world neither the things that are in the world. Ye must be born again.

Song: "Fill my Cup, Lord."

First Speaker: Bro. Jacob Ness. Subject: My People. Deut. 7:6-12.

Let us find the green pastures. We can be glad we are Americans but ashamed of the sins committed by Americans in America. We are working for God because we are His people. We can choose our wife, but not our relatives. We can become joint heirs with Christ by choice. How much do we feel our responsibility to others. Will people get more than they expect from us as God's people. Naomi lived such a life that Ruth declared, "Your God shall be my God." We don't need cults. God should fill our every need.

Second Speaker: Bro. Edward Johnson. Subject: Fear. Ex. 20:18-20.

Deut. 10:20. We should cry "Abba Father," and give Him fear, reverence and respect. We fear men and storms. Traveling on the plane we could not look down and see man but God can see man's every sinful act. How we ought to fear God. Matt. 14:25-27. Peter found it took faith and not fear to walk on the water to Jesus.

A young man working with a chemical that dried up water accidentally got some on his face. The pain was so intense his constant cry was, "I'm in hell — get me out." He feared God and what He was able to do to him.

Bro. Johnson told how near he came to losing his life when he cut down a tree which fell before he expected it to. God saved his life but he was made to realize how unexpectantly we could be in God's presence to meet our eternal destiny. Heaven will be great but hell will be terrible. Fear of God makes the difference. Rev. 21.

Closing: Bro. Frank Shaffer.

The world needs to know God's people fear Him, yet love Him.

Sunday Evening

Song Leader: Bro. Leonard Wertz.

Opening: Bro. David Ebling.

The story of Mary and Martha. Mary had chosen the good part. A strong home makes a strong Church. Is ours a Church founded on the good part Mary had chosen.

First Speaker: Bro. Eugene Kauffman. Subject: Is Ours a Good Church? Acts 2:42.

We are often discouraged by the little stumbling blocks Satan has allowed to be placed in our path.

We have a thirty thousand dollar building used three hours a week. A business would go bankrupt on those hours.

We should be a learning Church, learning more about the scriptures. We need the fellowship of believers. Acts 12:1. We should be a praying Church. God needs tools here that are Spirit filled. Do we share with other people what our Church stands for? We should be a growing and a joyful Church. Be sure God is ruling and reigning in our lives. If every member in the Church was just like me what would our Church be?

Second Speaker: Bro. Dennis St. John. To the Young People. Subject: Full Assurance. Hebrews 10:12-27. Text verse: 22.

Our insurance should come from Heaven and also our assurance. Elijah prayed and it didn't rain for three years and six months. He called down fire from Heaven, yet with all the assurance he had that God heard and answered his prayers he sat under a juniper tree and wanted to die.

Faith, fact and feeling sat on a wall

Feeling fell off, then faith got off.

Fact stayed. Feeling came back then faith returned.

Complete surrender makes complete happiness.

We can't sweep the dirt out of our lives. It must be washed away by the blood.

Closing: I have the full assurance our Church is a good Church but how can I make it better? We must look up to God. May we just see ourselves and Jesus with a fuller assurance and a better Church.

— To be continued
Sister Ruth Drake

SO YOU HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS?

So you have all the answers — for everyone else, that is! It's so easy to "solve" someone else's problems or to tell someone how to deal with a matter, but often, these "solutions" do not work. If you have a pat answer for every situation, you may be surprised to learn that such answers often do more harm than good. If your advice is good, it will hold up when put to the test. Does it, or does it just look good on paper?

It's not what you say to someone that counts. What counts is what you say that God can use. This requires Holy Spirit

inspiration and lots of Christ's love in your heart. Words spoken in disgust, bitterness or "because someone needs to be told a few things" will never accomplish anything. They only serve to drive the problem deeper. Our bad attitudes can foster greater rebellion, discouragement or inflict more pain. A kind and compassionate spirit encourages, whether you have any answers or not.

In Ecc. 3:7, we are told that there is "a time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak." To rend is to tear something apart; it leaves ragged edges which are hard to repair. Sometimes our words do this to people — we tear them apart, leaving ragged wounds which may never heal. To sew indicates putting something together so it will be worthwhile. This is what we should be helping people do, when their lives are all in pieces. With Christ in our hearts, we can be of help, but don't try to help someone with your own remedies.

"He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit." Prov. 17:27. We need to know when to keep still as well as when to speak. We need to listen and not do all the talking. Whenever you think that anyone needs a lot of your advice to get his or her problem solved, you are only revealing your ignorance. If you have an understanding heart, you will manifest a good spirit, not only to those in trouble, but to everyone. Part of that good spirit is to be a good listener!

When you are sitting on the sidelines watching, it is easy to think you have all the answers. It is easy to tell the wife of an impossible-to-get-along-with drunkard that she ought to just be loving and not retaliate. Then everything will work out fine — or will it? If you were in her shoes, how would you react? It is easy to tell the husband of a sloppy wife that if he just loves her and is patient and kind, it will all work out. What then is your answer when, in spite of his love and patience, the careless, sloppy habits continue?

"A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger." Prov. 15:1. "The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious." Ecc. 10:12a. When we should be giving a soft answer, the kind which God can bless and use, very often we only make bad matters worse by our grievous words. Phrases like "it looks to me like you're not trying" or "you know better than that" create wrath, rather than turn it away, for they are condemning words. Gracious words indicate wisdom, they do not irritate, but rather help to calm. Gracious words are kind, merciful, compassionate — the soft answer which indeed does turn away wrath.

"A word spoken in due season, how good is it!" Prov. 15:23b. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Prov. 25:11. A word spoken at exactly the right time, in exactly the right

way, is priceless. It matters what we say and also how we say it! Job's three friends thought they had all the answers and you may think you have all the answers, but God's opinion is what counts. God's wrath was kindled against those three and we may find Him angry with us if our answers do not come from a gracious heart. God is not pleased when we speak with a condemning attitude.

A woman whose husband often beat her sought help from a clergyman. He told her that her husband really didn't mean to hurt her, that he was just frustrated, and she should be more kind and understanding. The beatings continued, so she consulted her doctor. He gave her nerve pills, saying she was too nervous and needed to calm down. She later confided in a friend, and when her friend's husband heard the story, he thought it all a big exaggeration and forbid his wife to help.

At one particularly bad time, this woman called the police. They were no help either, as they refused to answer the call; to them it was just domestic trouble. They did call a few hours later to see if "things had settled down yet." This poor woman said she could have been dead by then! She related all this to a counsellor when asked how come she didn't seek help sooner. Then when asked why she put up with such treatment, her answer was "who wants a woman with three little ones?"

Of the four attempts mentioned, not one had resulted in any constructive help. This woman couldn't prevent the beatings, her husband had a problem which needed to be dealt with, but no one faced the reality of either need. No one wanted to go to the root of the problem. (What would you have done?) It was easier to put all the blame and responsibility on the woman. Sometimes our answers are just like all of these — they pass judgment, but offer no real solution. "The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary." Isa. 50:4a. Whether a problem is serious or simple, only the Lord can give you the right answers.

"Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man." Col. 4:6. God said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased; hear ye him." Matt. 17:5b. Without Christ and His Word in your heart, you won't have any right answers or any right way to say them. But with Christ in your heart, you will be motivated by His love; your words and actions will convey that love. Rather than having all the answers, you may feel that you haven't even one, but Jesus does. Whether for your own needs or someone else's, look to Jesus for the answers.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

SHE WASHED HIS FEET WITH TEARS

LUKE 7:40-50

Jesus was invited to eat with a man named Simon who was a Pharisee. The Pharisees were a religious sect of the Jews. They were very strict about many things. They were the ones whom the people trusted to teach them the Law of Moses. The Pharisees were the educated people of that day and were usually rich. It was expensive to get an education in that day. Jesus criticised the Pharisees because they made the Law of Moses of none effect by their traditions. They had many ideas and were very particular about living the law to the letter as they understood it. By being so strict they failed to have love, mercy and compassion for the poor and needy. The poor were looked down on by the Pharisees. They thought if people lived right God would make them prosperous. Many of the Pharisees loaned money and charged high interest rates to people who could hardly afford to pay. They were proud and liked to make long prayers, to be greeted in the market places and to have the best seats in the synagogues. They loved the praise of men more than of God.

After Jesus sat down to eat in Simon's house, a woman who was a sinner heard that He was there. She brought with her an alabaster box of ointment which was very expensive. She came into the house and stood by Jesus, weeping, and began to wash Jesus' feet with her tears and to wipe them with her hair. Then she kissed his feet and anointed them with the costly ointment she had brought with her.

When Simon saw the woman, he said to himself, "If this man was a prophet, He would have known what manner of woman this is that toucheth Him; for she is a sinner."

Jesus knows our thoughts just as well as if we were speaking out loud and He said to Simon, "I have something to say to you" and Simon said, "Master say on."

Jesus said, "There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me, therefore, which of them will love him most?"

Simon answered, "I suppose he, to whom he forgave most." And Jesus said unto him, "Thou hast rightly judged."

Then Jesus turned to the woman, and said to Simon, "See this woman? I entered into your house, and you gave me no water for my feet; but she has washed my feet with her tears, and wiped

them with the hairs of her head. You gave me no kiss; but this woman has not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil you didn't anoint; but this woman has anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little." And Jesus said to the woman, "Thy sins are forgiven; thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace."

How happy that woman must have been when she knew Jesus had forgiven her sins. The Bible says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

Jesus wants to forgive your sins. Will you let Him come into your heart? Do you appreciate what He has done for you enough to live your life for Him?

Bro. Rudy Cover



LIVE TO GIVE AND GIVE TO LIVE

A rich man once said to a friend, "Why is it everybody is always criticizing me for being miserly, when everybody knows I have made provisions to leave everything I possess to charity when I die?"

"Well," said the friend, "let me tell you about the pig and the cow." The pig was lamenting to the cow one day about how unpopular he was. "People are always talking about your gentleness and your kind eyes," said the pig. "Sure, you give milk and cream, but I give even more. I give bacon, ham, and I give bristles, and they even pickle my feet! Still nobody likes me! Why is this?"

The cow thought a minute, and then said, "Well, maybe it's because I give while I'm still living."

Selected by Sister Marilyn Lilly

MARRIAGE

STAUFFER - MEYERS

Sister Sally Stauffer, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Edwin Stauffer of Newmanstown, Pennsylvania and Brother James Meyers, son of Bro. and Sis. Roy Meyers of Dallas Center, Iowa, were united in holy matrimony on June 30, 1979 at the home of the bride.

Elder Allen Eberly brought the thoughts of meditation and Bro. Fred Pifer performed the ceremony.

The couple is residing at R. 1, Dallas Center, Iowa 50063.

NEWS ITEMS**MISSION NEEDS**

We were privileged during Conference to have a joint meeting with our Board of Directors and the General Mission Board in the pleasant atmosphere of the Mission Springs Conference Center.

It was decided at that time to make a needed replacement of one of the Mission vans. The Mission operates two vans - one twelve passenger and one fifteen passenger - to transport people to services and students to the Mission school. The 1976 twelve passenger van has 71,000 miles on it, which is a lot of miles over reservation roads, and is past due for replacement.

Funds are needed to make this replacement as soon as possible. It will be some time before this need could be made known through the Torreon Navajo Bulletin, therefore we use this means to present the need to you.

Those individuals, Churches or Sunday School classes wishing to make a contribution for this van may do so as the Lord lays it on your heart.

Send contributions to:

Bro. Kyle T. Reed, Sec.
R. 1, Box 4
Minburn, Iowa 50167

Make checks payable to:

Torreon Navajo Mission
Newton Jamison, Treas.
Brother David L. Skiles, Supt.
Torreon Navajo Mission

GOSHEN, INDIANA

The Lord willing, the Goshen, Indiana Congregation is planning to have their Harvest Meeting August 26. Bro. Dennis St. John from Pleasant Ridge, Ohio will bring us the message. We invite everyone to come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Sarah Wilson, Cor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation plans to have a series of Revival Meetings starting Monday, September 3 and continuing through Sunday, September 16. Bro. David Kegerreis of the Bethel Congregation will be our evangelist. All are invited to come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The Post Office has given Elder William Carpenter a new address. It is: 8012 Cavender St., Morenci, Michigan 49256.

OBITUARY**WILLIAM MYERS**

Bro. William C. Myers was born May 13, 1894 and departed this life July 9, 1979 in Akron City Hospital at the age of 85 years.

Survivors include his wife, Beulah; five daughters; one sister; two brothers; sixteen grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in Karlo and Sons Funeral Home, North Canton, Ohio by Elder Harley Flory. Interment in Sunset Hills Burial Park, Canton, Ohio.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPT.

Sept. 2 — "I Will Do a New Thing." Isaiah 43:1-28 (44:1-28).

Sept. 9 — "Israel Shall Be Saved." Isaiah 45:1-25.

Sept. 16 — Babylon's Gods Powerless. Isaiah 46:1-13; 47:1-15.

Sept. 23 — No Peace to the Wicked. Isaiah 48:1-22.

Sept. 30 — An Acceptable Time. Isaiah 49:1-26.

QUESTIONS:

- (1) What is the new thing that the Lord says He will do in Isaiah 43:19?
- (2) Who was the Saviour of Israel? Isaiah 45:17, 22.
- (3) Why was Babylon judged of God? Isaiah 47:10-11.
- (4) Why did not the Lord cut off Israel completely when they sinned? Isaiah 48:9-10.
- (5) Will the Lord forget His people? Isaiah 49:13-15.



HEAVENLY OCCUPATION—Faraday, the great scientist, was once asked, "Have you conceived what will be your occupation in the next world?" Hesitating a while, Faraday answered, "'Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.' I shall be with Christ, that's enough."

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1979

DELIVERANCE

Memory Verse: Ezra 8:31

Then we departed from the river of Ahava on the twelfth day of the first month, to go unto Jerusalem: and the hand of our God was upon us, and he delivered us from the hand of the enemy, and of such as lay in wait by the way.

Sat. 1 - 2 Chron. 29:1-19

Memory Verse: Ezra 9:13

And after all that is come upon us for our evil deeds, and for our great trespass, seeing that thou our God hast punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and hast given us such deliverance as this;

Sun. 2 - 2 Chron. 29:20-36

Mon. 3 - 2 Chron. 32:1-23

Tues. 4 - 2 Chron. 34:1-17

Wed. 5 - 2 Chron. 34:18-33

Thur. 6 - Ezra 5:1-17

Fri. 7 - Ezra 7:1-28

Sat. 8 - Ezra 8:21-36

Memory Verse: Neh. 9:28

But after they had rest, they did evil again before thee: therefore leftest thou them in the hand of their enemies, so that they had the dominion over them: yet when they returned, and cried unto thee, thou heardest them from heaven; and many times didst thou deliver them according to thy mercies;

Sun. 9 - Ezra 9:1-15

Mon. 10 - Neh. 9:1-21

Tues. 11 - Neh. 9:22-38

Wed. 12 - Job 5:1-27

Thur. 13 - Job 6:1-30

Fri. 14 - Job 10:1-22

Sat. 15 - Job 16:1-22

Memory Verse: Job 5:19

He shall deliver thee in six troubles: yea, in seven there shall no evil touch thee.

Sun. 16 - Job 22:1-30

Mon. 17 - Job 23:1-17

Tues. 18 - Job 29:1-25

Wed. 19 - Job 33:1-33

Thur. 20 - Job 36:1-33

Fri. 21 - Psa. 6:1-10

Sat. 22 - Psa. 7:1-17

Memory Verse: Job 36:18

Because there is wrath, beware lest he take thee away with his stroke: then a great ransom cannot deliver thee.

Sun. 23 - Psa. 17:1-15

Mon. 24 - Psa. 18:1-24

Tues. 25 - Psa. 18:25-50

Wed. 26 - Psa. 22:1-31

Thur. 27 - Psa. 25:1-22

Fri. 28 - Psa. 27:1-14

Sat. 29 - Psa. 31:1-24

Memory Verse: Psa. 18:2

The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Sun. 30 - Psa. 32:1-11

Lester Fisher
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(USPS 054-780)

BIBLE MONITOR

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SEPTEMBER 1, 1979

NO. 17

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

A SWEETLY SOLEMN THOUGHT

A sweetly solemn thought
Comes to me o'er and o'er,
Today I'm nearer to my home
Than e'er I've been before.
Nearer my Father's house,
Where many mansions be,
And nearer to the great white throne,
Nearer the crystal sea.
Nearer the bound of life,
Where falls my burden down;
Nearer to where I leave my cross,
And where I gain my crown.
Savior, confirm my trust,
Complete my faith in thee;
And let me feel as if I stood
Close on eternity;
Feel as if now my feet
Were slipping o'er the brink;
For I may now be nearer home,
Much nearer than I think.

— Phoebe Cary

WHAT IS YOUR SALVATION WORTH?

At an auction, each item is held up before the crowd as the auctioneer urges the bidders to continue to raise the price until the bids will go no higher. When the item is "knocked down" to the highest bidder, a value has been placed upon it. Each item is worth what it will bring from the crowd present.

Whether knick-knacks, furniture or houses and lands, the objects of this world have a certain value. These are the perishable, material things of this present world. Not only the present, visible things of this world have value but the invisible things of the soul also have value. The value of our soul's salvation is the greatest of all.

God without special favor toward anyone or any class, has devised a means to redeem us. He has established a plan of salvation that will rescue our souls from their expected and deserved doom and will lift them up to Heaven. This salvation should be of great value to each one who has availed himself of the opportunity to be a part of God's Redeemed family.

There are several reasons why salvation has such great worth.

1. Its Author

The author of our salvation is God, Himself. God created mankind with the idea that man would bring pleasure to Him. Man's sin has ruined that desired relationship and left to his own devices he can not do anything that would bring himself back into God's favor. So God took the initiative. All three persons of the Trinity have a part in the provided plan. God the Father devised the plan even before the foundations of the world were laid. He provided

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the perfect Sacrifice in His Son. His Love was the great impetus behind the rescue of fallen man. God the Son, Jesus Christ, gave Himself as the perfect sacrifice on Calvary. God, the Holy Spirit, draws men to hear and learn of this salvation. The Spirit moved the writers of the Bible to write what we must know to secure so great salvation. Salvation has great worth because of its authorship.

2. Its Length

Salvation is eternal. The things of this world last only for a few years. Men only live a few allotted years before their bodies are laid in the ground to return to dust. Our minds can comprehend only that which has beginning and ending but our souls have an eternity stretching before them. Salvation means a Home beyond this life. We look forward to Heaven which is alluded to in the pages of the Bible, although it is beyond the power of our minds to comprehend. The eternal length of salvation is heightened when we realize that our eternal soul will spend that eternity either in Heaven or in Hell. Salvation is valuable as an escape from Hell and an entrance into Heaven.

3. Its Price

The price of our salvation was the blood of Jesus Christ. Because of God's great love for even fallen man He was willing to give His Son as our ransom upon Calvary's cross. Jesus bore not only the pain of crucifixion but more importantly the burden of man's sins. Salvation could not have been more secured through the death of any other person than the Sinless Jesus. Salvation is valuable because of the Price God was willing to pay to provide it for us.

4. Its Cost

Thus far the value of our salvation has been linked to what God has done. Salvation is valuable also because of its cost to us. Jesus urges those who want it to first count the cost that they would not enter too hastily then regret their choice. The Christian life demands a giving up of many objects and activities of this world. If salvation is not worth this giving up then it is of very little value to us. Because of the cost demanded of us, we realize that we must put our trust in Him for help and strength. If salvation is of value to us, it will influence all of our decisions. It should have a part in our choice of occupation, in our recreation and even in the things we think on. If it means much to us we will not want to be marginal Christians, trying to live as close the line as the New Testament and the Church will allow. Rather we will want to live a whole-hearted, consecrated Christian life. If we find that a hard task we must remember that if we can trust God in the first place for our salvation then we can trust Him to help us live a Christian life.

Salvation is valuable because of its Author, its length, its Price and its Cost. What is your salvation worth to you?

WHEN SELF IS ON THE THRONE

"Self-conscious," "self-pity," "self-discipline," "self-righteous"—these are words which we commonly use everyday. Webster's unabridged dictionary lists approximately three hundred such compound words, with "self" as the prefix. Some of these words indicate a positive and good approach to life, where "self" is put in its proper place. Many of them indicate a problem. Words such as "self-pity," "self-centered," "self-exaltation" indicate that "self" comes first and has been elevated to a position where it has no right to be.

We need self-discipline, self-control and a certain amount of self-confidence, but it is wrong to be all wrapped up in ourselves. Christ must come first with us and self last; He is the only one who has the right to supremacy in our lives. If we put self first, we've put self on the throne instead of the Lord. Our lives must be motivated by Christ and His love, not self, in order to please God. When we are motivated by self-love, selfishness or self-pride, we are not giving God His rightful place in our lives.

No one really likes a selfish person. A selfish child or adult can make life miserable for everyone around him or her by his demanding, self-centered ways. He wants all the attention; he wants every whim satisfied. He wants and wants and wants, but is never really contented — and never gives. There are less-obvious degrees of selfishness, ones which are more easily hidden, but that doesn't make them right. Those nasty words we speak, the criticism we hand out, the cold shoulder we give may relieve our emotions, but only at someone else's expense.

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any many will come after me, let him deny HIMSELF, and take up his cross, and follow me." Matt. 16:24. A self-centered life cannot be a Christ-centered life. Selfish whims and desires must be laid aside when we follow Christ. With Christ on the throne in our lives, self must get out of the way, then we can begin to give the love of Christ to others.

The priest and the Levite selfishly passed by the robbery victim — they were too good, so they thought, to touch the man. The Pharisees were selfish; they wanted all the attention and authority for themselves. When the people began to follow Christ, the Pharisees became jealous and angry. They had exalted themselves and did not intend to let go of their position. Jesus said, "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." Matt. 23:12. We cannot elevate and separate ourselves from others and still expect to have Christ's blessings upon us.

"And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others." Luke 18:9. The Pharisee in this parable thought he was a pretty good guy and bragged to God about all he had done. He didn't see anything wrong with himself (a selfish person never does), but Jesus saw the self-righteousness. He saw the way the Pharisees treated others, how they looked down on others and only loved themselves. True righteousness is revealed by love and concern for others and for the Lord, not by bragging about how good we think we are.

Someone gave this definition of the difference between being self-willed and strong-willed. "A self-willed person will give in to his spontaneous wants and desires. A strong-willed one is self-disciplined and can deny himself." A self-willed person is selfish; a strong-willed person is unselfish. A selfish person's main concern is his own welfare, but Jesus said we don't need to worry about ourselves, that God will take care of us. Read Luke 12:22-31. You may be afraid that if you are unselfish, you will have to do without, but Jesus said to seek the kingdom of God first, then these things would be added (v. 31). If we are unselfish and put first things first, we can rest assured that our needs will be provided.

Just what motivates you to do the things you do? Are you prompted by selfish desires or by a desire to do God's will? Are you trying to make yourself happy, whether others are or not, or do you love to make others happy? All those things you say — are they prompted by love? What is your motive in witnessing — to bring others close to Christ or merely to point out how right you are? "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves." II Cor. 13:5a. Examine your own heart and be honest about what you find. Ask the Lord to take away any selfishness that you find there.

"For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself." Gal. 6:3. As Christians, we need to be honest with ourselves; we need to use God's Word as our standard of measurement. It doesn't pay to measure ourselves by ourselves (see II Cor. 10:12b). We need to be concerned about others (Phil. 2:4), we need to be temperate and self-controlled. We should give our wills over to God's control and let His will come first in our thoughts and desires. Self does not belong on the throne in our lives. When God is on the throne in our hearts, self will not be.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

1979 GENERAL CONFERENCE NOTES

Continued from August 15, 1979 Issue

Monday Morning

Song Leader: Bro. David Skiles. Songs: "My Jesus I Love Thee", "All For Jesus."

Opening Devotions: Bro. Harley Rush.

This day which God has given us, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Luke 8:22-26. Where is your faith? Not in a person. Not alone in the church but IN Christ. Christ is captain of the old ship Zion. We wonder how many who were in the great plane accident in Chicago were ready to meet God. As we think of the wreck of the Titanic we ask the same question. How many were ready for their home in Heaven?

A man asked a sister what she wore the white cap for. She told him and he replied, "Oh, I thought maybe you belonged to a fishing club." We should!

Monday A.M.

Song Leader: Bro. Tom St. John. Songs: "Pass Me Not O Gentle Saviour", "Under His Wings."

Opening: Bro. Paul Byfield. I John 1:1-10.

Jesus ties us together. We want to receive a filling. We have fellowship through our love of Jesus.

Song: "A Closer Walk With Thee."

Bible Study Leader: Bro. Martin Meyers. Lesson: I Cor. 13.

Our love for Christ grows. The love of husband and wife should grow. Are we easily provoked? If some Brother or Sister makes a mistake are we quick to criticize?

Song: "If That Isn't Love."

Speaker: Bro. Henry Walker. Subject: The Christian's Hope.

The love of Christ must be in our hearts so our cup is filled and running over. I Thess. 4:9-18. Do we have His love? We hope for health, wealth and that there is no Hell. Through one man Adam sin came into the world. Through one man Christ we are saved. We have hope through the resurrection of Christ. I Thess. 4:9-10. Increase more and more in love. Christ was beaten until His back was raw. The crown of thorns pierced His head. He was laid on the cross and nailed fast yet He looked down from the cross on His persecutors with the same love He had for His friends.

We can find love stories in the Bible. The Book of Ruth. Mystery stories, Belshazzar. Science fiction, the Red Sea.

We start the race but don't condition ourselves to finish it. Let us be pure as He was pure. Our only hope is Jesus Christ.

Song: "The Solid Rock."

Closing Remarks: Bro. Dennis St. John.

This world has lost its hope. Our hope is not wistful thinking. Hope is fulfilled in Heaven.

Monday P.M.

Song Leader: Bro. Tom St. John. Songs: "Come We That Love the Lord," "Oh How I Love Jesus."

Opening: Bro. Rudy Cover. Psalms 103.

He removes our sins as far as the East is from the West. He has forgotten them. Peter got his eyes off Jesus when he began to sink. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. Nothing is too hard for Jesus.

Song: "Blessed Be the Lord."

First Speaker: Bro. Merle Swihart. Subject: Thankfulness.

This should be the hallmark of every Christian. Psalms 100. Any old bird can sing in the sunshine but it takes a good bird to sing in the rain. We are not always thankful. Micah 6:1-8. Psalms 50:10. The cattle on a thousand hills are mine. Pray for others not just for ourselves. When we become unthankful we are getting a long ways from God. One soul is worth the whole world. Luke 17:12-19. The story of the ten lepers. Only one was thankful. II Tim. 3:1-5. Rev. 7:9-17. Psalms 50:23.

Second Speaker: Bro. Kenneth Wolfe.

Matt. 6:24-34. What is the kingdom of God? It is spiritual. It is within you. We cannot find it on the map. It is an attitude of the mind. It makes our conduct. It is a life of self denial, cross bearing and suffering. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you. We choose to exalt the carnal mind or choose God. We so often forget God until we need Him.

Closing: Bro. Paul Byfield.

Father I thank Thee that thou dost hear me.

Monday Evening

Song Leader: Bro. Merle Swihart.

Opening: Bro. Melvin Roesch. Psalms 86:1-7.

Special prayer was offered for John and Virgie Rio and Elaine Leatherman.

Song: "Burdens are Lifted at Calvary."

First Speaker: Bro. David Skiles. Subject: Discipleship. Rom. 11:1-17.

How would we grade ourselves as disciples? We have a debt to our parents, to God, to the Church, to the nation and to our friends. Paul had a debt of love. The children of Israel had a debt to the Egyptians. They were their bond servants. We have chosen our life

style and this is serious. It is hard to be a disciple. Why doesn't the Church grow? What we do with our returns from our labours tells our discipleship. Discipleship is a vital part of our Christianity. A disciple is a learner. We must love His commands and the Word of God. One sin of the Christian is worry. Glory in tribulation. Matt. 9:36-38. May we be more like Jesus in our compassion. May we be a faithful witness, a ready worker and a willing disciple. There is strife between God and Satan. May we leave this Conference with a greater desire to be a true disciple.

Song: "I'll Be What You Want Me to Be."

Second Speaker: Bro. Ora Skiles. John 3:16. The Lost and the Saved.

A person is either lost or saved. "Ye must be born again." Today's education is drawing young people away from God. The world has nothing to offer. The rich man went to Hell. Lazarus went to Heaven. There is no middle ground. Jesus is the only way.

Closing: Bro. Clyde Schultz.

There is always something new to be learned in God's Word. John 6:66. The disciples went back but Peter said, "Thou art the way."

Tuesday Morning

Song Leader: Bro. Leonard Wertz.

Opening Devotions: Bro. Paul Byfield.

We are making history in the Church for 1979. Acts 3:1-11. Peter received the Holy Ghost at Pentecost and now Peter heals the man lame from birth or rather he healed through the power of Jesus. The Holy Spirit had sent the Apostles where He wanted them. When the human side takes over the Holy Spirit can not work. The lame man was saved as well as healed.

Tuesday A.M.

Song Leader: Bro. Tom St. John. Songs: "Yes, Jesus Loves Me", "Nothing But the Blood of Jesus."

Devotions: Bro. Milton Cook. I Thess. 1:1-10.

The good influence of Paul on the members at Thessalonica. Their faith had an effect on others in Macedonia and Achaia. This world is full of dead idols. Let us find the true Christ.

Bible Study Leader: Bro. Carl Reed. Matt. 18:1-35. Forgiveness.

If we follow Christ's instructions many troubles and misunderstandings would never happen.

Song: "Near the Cross."

Speaker: Bro. Rudy Cover. Subject: Total Commitment. Matt. 19:16-30.

Do we make our Christianity a hobby or do we live it? Do we ask

for more and more and then not give. Let's give it all up, start over and make Christ first. "Ye must be born again". If we owned the whole world we could not buy Heaven. We like to communicate with our friends. God is our best friend, let's communicate with Him. We are like the Laodicean Church, we need to wake up. Will I find faith on earth when I come? Job 42:1-6. Acts 7:54-60. I can do all things through Jesus Christ who strengtheneth me. If we want a good Church each member must be consecrated to Christ.

Closing: Bro. Dennis St. John.

God's Church is not a half-hearted one. What are we doing with our talents? We need to be a servant to know what Jesus wants.

Tuesday P.M.

Song Leader: Bro. Dale Blocher. Songs: "To God be the Glory", "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name."

Remarks: Bro. Paul Byfield.

If I don't go home from Conference with a more devoted attitude towards God it is my own fault.

Opening: Bro. Rudy Cover. Jonah 2.

What God says we should do. Where He says to go we should go.

First Speaker: Bro. David Kegerreis. Subject: Being Born Again. I Peter 1, John 3:1-13, Ezk. 36:26-28.

The Jews are going back to Jerusalem. The time for Jesus' coming is drawing near. The hand writing is on the wall. Acts 2:38-41. What is my influence? Jesus Son of David have mercy on me. The man blind from birth was given his sight. We need to let the world know we have been with Christ. Love thy neighbor as thyself. Let's take a look at ourselves and see which road we are on, Christ's or Satan's.

Second Speaker: Bro. John Pepper. Subject: The Blood is the Life Line. I John 5:1-10; Isa. 53; Acts 8:26-39; I Peter 3:8.

We need some updating in our manners with those that are fallen. The children mocked Elisha and the bears ate them. Satan hates the blood of Jesus. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of a living God.

Closing: Bro. Merle Swihart.

Be ye holy as I am holy. We can't go out in the world and pull ourselves up by our own boot straps.

Tuesday Evening

Song Leader: Bro. Harley Rush.

Opening: Bro. Hayes Reed. Acts 1:12-14; Acts 2:38-47.

The foundation of Christ's Church. Let's keep His Church pure.

Song: "Rescue the Perishing."

Speaker: Bro. Galen Litfin. Subject: Helping Others.

I took a man to the bar to find his lost rug. He bought a drink and offered me one but I refused. He had two or three more drinks each time offering me one also. As I continued to refuse he finally told me to keep on teaching the Word.

Temptations come in many ways today. Our young people find many problems in school today. Is Rock and Roll connected with witch craft? Moses had a great task to lead the thousands of Israel out of Egypt. People in nursing homes, those who are hungry and those who are down and out need our help. Why don't we give more of our time, money and self? God asks for our tenth, let's give it in time as well as money. Do we take time for prayer in the morning as well as night? Do we thank Him for each meal? Where is the power of the cults? It is much harder to get our young folks out of the cults than it is for them to get in. Might our young folks be as enthusiastic over Christ and the Church as cult members are over their cult and its leaders.

Christ is our Captain. All power is given to Him in Heaven and in earth. Mark 12:30 should be our slogan.

Song: "Jesus is Calling."

Closing: Bro. Jacob Ness.

Everyone was much concerned about the danger from the power plant at Three Mile Island. There is a danger far more serious, that of missing Heaven. The danger from Three Mile Island could only affect the body. Missing Heaven concerns our soul.

Wednesday Morning

Song Leader: Bro. Martin Meyers.

Opening Devotions: Bro. Kenneth Wolfe.

We all feel a sense of sadness this morning, that soon we must each go our individual way.

John 1:19-22. What sayest thou of thyself?

Faith is essential. Without faith it is impossible to please God. Without faith we cannot be justified before God. The unjust steward thought only of himself. The people of this world are wiser than the children of light. We cannot serve two masters. We must each answer for ourselves.

Wednesday A.M.

The opening of the 51st General Conference of the Dunkard Brethren Church.

Opening Devotions: Bro. Frank Shaffer. II Peter 1.

Moderator: Bro. Edward Johnson.

Reading Clerk: Bro. Jacob Ness.

Writing Clerk: Bro. Hayes Reed.

Timekeeper: Bro. Tom Longenecker.

Tellers: Bro. Marlin Marks and Bro. Keith Castle.

Forty delegates were present.

Some thoughts to strengthen our faith. I Cor. 1:1-24. Special verses: 9-10, 12, 20, 22.

God keeps His promises even when we don't keep ours. We have no strength in ourselves. God must give it to us. Abraham knew God was able to raise Isaac from the dead or provide a sacrifice in his stead. Which ever was God's will. We need simplicity. We leave our mark in the world either for good or bad.

To you who were not permitted to attend Conference I pray that these few notes will help you to receive some of the blessings we whom God permitted to attend received. Use them with your Bible to follow God's messages.

Sister Ruth Drake
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WRONGLY "FOLLOWING" CHRIST

I Corinthians 1:12, "Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ." A first reaction to this verse may very well be a sense of short sightedness on the part of Paul. It would seem he must be mistaken to list followers of Christ as being in error in the same sentence as wrongly following men. Paul's actual thinking will never be agreed on by Bible interpreters and there are surely different avenues of thought that can be followed. I, personally, believe Paul was speaking of those who PROFESSED to follow Christ but did not do so in a real spiritual sense. Using this as a background let us look at several kinds of people today who claim to be following Christ but fall short of the Bible demands.

First let us consider those who say Jesus Christ was just a myth. However, they say the stories told about Him and His teachings hold moral value and should be followed. Thus they claim to be followers of Christ.

Then there are the individuals who say that Jesus Christ was a historical person but He was JUST a man. They say He was a good moral teacher and lived a clean life but He had His faults the same as other men. They say it is foolish to believe He was born of a virgin and His miracles were actually a mixture of progressive knowledge of medicine and stories made up to make Him seem greater than He was. These also claim to be followers of Christ.

There are those who say Jesus Christ was a TYPE of God. They

say all men can achieve this same thing if they follow the teachings of God as Jesus did. They believe that Jesus evolved into a kind of God by good works and mental concentration. They too claim to be followers of Christ.

We have the individuals who believe Jesus Christ was the son (small "s") of God. They believe He was a special son but still ONLY a son. They believe He shows how we can become sons of God JUST AS HE DID. They also claim to be followers of Christ.

A thinking gaining many followers today is that which says that Jesus Christ is one of the many ways that God has appeared in the flesh. They teach that all the leaders of major world religions were methods of God revealing Himself in the flesh. They also teach that Jesus was only one of many Christs. These also claim to be followers of Christ.

Then there are those who accept Jesus Christ as The (only) begotten Son of God. They religiously follow His COMMANDS and TEACHINGS (except to be born again) in order to merit salvation. They try to be saved by His LIFE instead of by His DEATH (by His shed blood) as the scripture demands. It is a sad situation but these professed followers of Christ are just as lost as the previous groups.

Finally there are those who accept Jesus Christ as the Son of God as well as God the Son. Their theology is scripturally sound. Their problem is that they stop there. They do not realize the need of following Christ in a day by day act of obedience. In this same group are those who teach "once saved always saved," "Non-resistance is not for today," and other "popular" teachings. As to their final state of existence, I leave this in the hands of God. But they certainly fall short of being complete followers of Christ.

Let me end with this thought. We must never get so proud of being true followers of Christ that we feel we are the only, true servants of God. Also we all need to continually search out those areas of our lives where we fall short of being followers of Christ in a complete sense.

James M. Hite
816 E. Birch St.
Palmyra, Pa. 17078



THE SALT—A person who was once striving to shield from reproof those Christians; who love worldly society, said to another; "You know believers are called to be the salt of the earth." "Yes," said the other, "but if the salt be cast into the ocean, from whence it was taken, it will melt away and vanish."

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"WHO IS MY MOTHER: WHO ARE MY BRETHREN?"

MATTHEW 12:46-50

Would you like to be a brother or a sister to Jesus? It is possible that you can be. If you will study God's Word and do what it says, then you can be a brother or a sister to Jesus. Jesus said so.

There were many people who listened to Jesus speak when He was here. Jesus taught the people how to live. He warned them against the Pharisees and Scribes who were proud and boastful and wanted only to be heard and seen of men. They forgot that God can see things that man cannot. Man looks on the outward appearance but God looks on the heart. The Pharisees did look good outside but Jesus said they were like whited sepulchres that were painted white and clean on the outside but on the inside were full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. Jesus came to tell people the truth, even though they didn't like to hear it. The common people followed Jesus and received Him gladly. Jesus said He came to seek and to save that which was lost. They that were whole need not a physician but they that were sick.

While Jesus was speaking to the people, His mother and His brothers came to see Him and they wanted to speak to Him. There were so many people around Jesus that His own mother and brothers couldn't get close. Someone who knew them noticed who they were and said to Jesus, "Thy mother and thy brethren stand without desiring to speak with thee."

Jesus knew they were there because He knows everything, but Jesus wanted to teach the people a great truth. He said, "Who is my mother and who are my brethren?" Then He stretched forth His hand toward His disciples and said, "Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother."

Aren't you glad that Jesus said this? Now we know that we can be a part of the family of God. We can be a brother or a sister or a mother to Jesus. How can we be a part of Jesus' family? By doing the Father's will. Our Heavenly Father sent Jesus into the world to teach us the Father's will. All that Jesus said was what His Father told Him to say. Jesus says, "I came not to do mine own will but the will of Him that sent me." In Luke 8, Jesus said, "My mother and my brethren are they which hear the Word of God and do it."

Brother Rudy Cover

OBITUARY

ADA WHITMAN

Sis. Ada May (Webb) Whitman, widow of the late S. L. Whitman, was born November 18, 1888 in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan to Arthur and Ella (Smith) Webb, who are deceased. Ada departed this life July 21, 1979 at the age of 90 years, 8 months and 3 days, at the Good Shepherd Home, Fostoria, Ohio. She taught school in her earlier years and lived most of her life in the Wood County area in Ohio. It was while she was teaching, she met and married Sage L. Whitman, who preceded her in death, August 1965. To this union was born four children, one son and three daughters, Clare Whitman; Lelah Belle (Mrs. Kenneth) Souder, Fostoria, Ohio; Luluvene (Mrs. Herbert) Yates, West Unity, Ohio and Fern (Mrs. Robert) Baeder, Cleveland, Ohio. Also surviving are three sisters, Mrs. Maude Heisey, Mrs. Hattie Bickelhaupt, Mrs. Olive Stuart; and three brothers, William, George and Arthur Webb. She also leaves to mourn her passing, seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two brothers, two sisters, one grandchild and one great-grandchild.

At the age of twenty-six, she accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized into the Kingdom of God and became a member of the Body of Christ in the Church of the Brethren, where she held membership for many years. Later, in the founding year of the Dunkard Brethren Church, she transferred her membership to be with them, becoming one of the charter members, where she remained until her death. Living a faithful life for her Blessed Lord, Whom she loved so much that she deemed it a privilege to deny herself and pick up her cross to follow Jesus as His disciple. Her Heavenly Father called her out of this earthly life to give to His beloved child His rest with all the redeemed. There to await the Resurrection morning unto life eternal to be forever with her Glorious Lord is our hope for her.

She faithfully believed;

"To me to live, is Christ,"

"Only one life, 'twill soon be past,

Only what's done for Christ will last."

Funeral services were conducted in the Barndt Funeral Home, Wayne, Ohio by Elder Harley Flory, Elder Charles Leatherman and Elder William Carpenter with interment in the Mt. Zion Cemetery, Wood County, Ohio.

Farewell, my relatives and friends,
I bid you all adieu,
Oh, give your lives to the Savior,
And always to Jesus be true.
I'll meet you again at the portal,
Where angels come and go,
Be faithful then, oh, be faithful,
It won't be long, you know.

NEWS ITEMS

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Lord willing, the Grandview Congregation will hold a one week Revival from September 16 through September 23. Bro. Dennis St. John of Stryker, Ohio, will be our evangelist.

On Saturday, September 22, there will be services beginning at 11 A.M. with Lovefeast in the evening. Also there will be services throughout Sunday. Come enjoy these meetings with us. Pray with us for these meetings.

Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lititz Congregation plans to have their Revival September 23 through October 7 with Elder Dean St. John, Camden, Michigan, as the evangelist.

We extend a hearty invitation to all who can to attend our meetings.

On July 7 we were happy that two precious souls were received into the Church. One a Brother on his former baptism and his wife was baptized right after Church. May the Lord bless these two young people.

Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

The Pleasant Home Church at Ceres, California enjoyed a Revival with Bro. Eugene Kauffman as evangelist. His Spirit-filled messages were enjoyed by all.

The week following our Revival four precious souls were baptized. Since then one dear Sister has joined with us. Truly, we feel we have had a time of refreshing.

May the Lord richly bless Bro. Kauffman as he continues to work for Jesus.

Sister Edyth Kline, Cor.

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Lester Fisher
4664 N. State Rte. 48
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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

GRACIOUS SPIRIT, LOVE DIVINE

Gracious Spirit, Love Divine!
Let thy light within us shine;
All my guilty fears remove,
Fill me with thy heav'nly love.

Speak thy pard'ning grace to me,
Set the burdened sinner free;
Lead me to the Lamb of God;
Wash me in his precious blood.

Life and peace to me impart,
Seal salvation on my heart;
Breathe thyself into my breast,
Earnest of immortal rest.

Let me never from thee stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Fill my soul with joy divine,
Keep me, Lord, forever thine.

— John Stocker

SELFISHNESS

Selfishness is one of many prevailing faults in the world today. Selfishness takes many forms, often disguising itself. But its effects can be seen in nearly every realm of life.

Selfishness is evident in the relationships of people. Friendship is based on what advantages, socially or financially, can be gained by acquaintance with another. The acquisition of goods and property is often a show of selfishness used to impress another. Not only do all the neighbors try to keep up with "the Joneses" but "the Joneses" are trying to keep up as well. All of this for the sake of a selfish desire for possessions or social prestige.

Selfishness is evident in the world's marketplace. The manufacturer, the wholesaler and the retailer all seek the greatest amount of profit possible. Their desire is to make all that they can from their product or service. They have little regard for a fair price or to be helpful to their customers only how much money can be collected.

Because selfishness is infectious, the selfishness of one group is matched with similar selfishness in other groups. This is very evident in the labor unrest of the present day. Today selfishness has overwhelmed any sense of duty or loyalty that workers should feel toward their employers and the public they serve. Their selfishness is often compounded by the use of force to gain their desires. There is an unwillingness to suffer financially that peace might prevail. In labor disputes there is usually little righteousness on either side, for both are guilty of selfishness.

The officials of the government are often affected by selfishness.

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Some succumb to the temptation to receive bribes, others commit illegal and immoral acts in order to continue to hold their offices. Often those in government are able to set their own salaries which are often set more to please their covetousness than to serve the public who provides for them.

Marriages in today's world are often on the verge of failure and many do end in divorce. The root of this failure often lies in selfishness. Rather than the husband and wife being one they are two, each plotting and planning how each can obtain his own selfish desires. Consequently selfishness often brings separation, if not physical, at least emotional and in purpose.

We are not surprised to see these conditions which are caused by selfishness in the unregenerate world. Selfishness is one of the trademarks of the world so its effects are to be expected. But selfishness should not be found among Christians.

Christians are the recipients of the greatest unselfishness ever displayed. God, as the giving Father, as the Redeeming Son and as the directing Spirit has shown unselfishness without measure. As recipients we should likewise be unselfish. But even with such an example, we still must battle selfishness within our lives.

The desires of this life often seem of greater importance than the things of Christ. We become more concerned with the upkeep and comfort of our homes. We devote more effort to improving our financial and social standing than we do in prayer and Bible Study. We know more about economics than we do about Christian service. We are more interested in our fields and crops and animals than we are in our Missions. We are more impressed by a person's wealth or prestige than we are by his spiritual life or the lack thereof. These are all signs of selfishness that have subtly crept into our lives. When our or others' finances are of greater concern to us than the salvation of souls there is something amiss in our lives. Selfishness and covetousness may well be that thing.

If this selfishness is a problem in our Christian lives, it should be rooted out and destroyed. For those who are to be Christlike, selfishness does not fit into that image. A good method for ridding our lives of selfishness is to remember, repeat and follow the Golden Rule. "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." This rule, if remembered and practiced, will improve all social and Spiritual relationships. By removing our minds' chief concern from ourselves and transferring it to others we can overcome selfishness. If we fulfill our duty to others whether Saints or sinners, we will not have much time for our selfish desires. Our minds should be concerned about the Spiritual needs even above the material needs of others.

Are you fulfilling the Golden Rule? What are the most important things in your life? Is there any selfishness in your life?

THE DONKEY AND THE HAY

There is a story about a stubborn donkey who refused to move, regardless of how he was coaxed and prodded. His owner finally tied a little bunch of hay to a stick, placing it so the hay dangled in front of the donkey, just out of reach. The donkey wanted the hay and kept walking forward, trying to reach it. In this way, he eventually came to his destination, at which time he received the hay. Sometimes people are just like this donkey — very stubborn and hard to get started. God has to use special measures then to get the desired action.

God has to coax and prod us into action sometimes, because we are stubborn and set in our ways. We don't want to set aside our favorite pastimes or other personal plans, so we refuse to move when God says go. Whenever He asks us to move, it is always with good reason and He will bless us after we've done His will. God does not ask us to do things for Him just to keep us busy. He wants us to take the message of salvation to others. Even though it may inconvenience us at times, whatever effort we put into it will be well worth it.

Jonah had to be coaxed and prodded; so did Moses. Paul had to be literally stopped in his tracks and blinded for three days in order to get him to do God's will. Jonah had to spend three days inside the great fish before he consented to do what God had told him to do in the first place. Moses spent forty years in the wilderness before he was ready to do God's bidding and lead the children of Israel. Even then, he still thought he had to have help. How many times has God had to use some drastic measures on you to get you to move according to His will for your life?

When we give our hearts to the Lord, there are general principles which we are to follow. But God also has an individual field of service for each of us; it usually is these individual responsibilities at which we balk. Personal service requires a little extra from us — more of our time, our talent, our finances — and we may selfishly wish to keep this "extra" for ourselves. Jonah evidently thought God should send someone else to Ninevah, so he tried to run away from the job, but it was still there for him to do. God required that he give his extra by preaching in this huge city. What is your field of service.

Moses thought God should get someone else to do his job, because he could not talk fast enough and he wasn't important enough to appear before Pharaoh. Besides, who would believe him anyhow when he told them he had a message from God? God was angry with Moses for not trusting Him with his speech problem (Ex. 4:11-14), but He gave him a spokesman. God gave Moses

three signs to use before Pharaoh and He also gave him a promise which would be fulfilled when Israel was free. Because Moses wasn't willing to go until God gave him a spokesman, he no doubt cheated himself out of a blessing. He didn't trust God to help him even though God had promised to do so. How often have you cheated yourself by refusing to move, even when God has assured you that He will be with you?

Lot lingered in Sodom when he should have been hurrying to safety. He was not moving as God wanted him to. II Chron. 25:2 tells us that "Amaziah did right, but not with a perfect heart." Lot did not seek close fellowship with God and Amaziah's heart was not in what he did. Either situation is dangerous, for both take us away from God. We should be willing to move on in the Lord's work, with our hearts set on pleasing Him, even when it means we must leave familiar things behind.

"I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: maimed, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not." Matt. 25:43. (You didn't have time for me when I needed you. You kept your extra for yourself.) "I will follow thee, but —" Luke 9:61. (Not right now, Lord. I have other things to do. I'll do Your work later on.) "When I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." Acts 24:25. (Don't call me, I'll call you when I have nothing else to do.) "And the door was shut." Matt. 25:10. (The opportunity was now gone. So was the blessing!)

"And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand." Matt. 7:26. Stubbornly refusing to do God's will is not a mark of intelligence. A donkey is noted for being stubborn, but a child of God should not be. Refusing to accept God's call to service is a sin (see James 4:17) just as much as an outright violation of a commandment.

Gideon made excuses, but after he received plenty of assurance, he went into action. He thought he was just a nobody and who could use a nobody? God can! "With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men." Eph. 6:7. When you are willing to serve, God can take you, a nobody, and make you a somebody, so don't be so hard to get started!

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554



There is no investment that pays larger dividends all things considered than cheerful smiles and kind words.

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

GREATER BARN!

LUKE 12:16-21

Would you like to have a million dollars? Most people would. One time Jesus told about a certain rich man. This man's farm had produced so much his barns couldn't hold it all. The man said to himself, "What shall I do because I have no room to bestow my fruits?" After thinking it over he decided what to do and said, "I will pull down my barns and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul you have much goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink; and be merry.' "

This man was very selfish. He wasn't thinking how much good he could do by helping somebody else. He was only thinking of himself. God had blessed him with riches, land and bountiful crops. It would have been easy for him to have given some of his riches to help others. If he would have sold his surplus, he wouldn't have needed to build greater barns. Maybe he wanted to keep his crops till he could have received a better price. We don't know what all he had in mind but we do know he was only thinking about himself. He didn't care or have any concern for his neighbors or those around him. He was like some people are today. His fortune was made — enough for many years. He had what he always wanted. Now he could retire — take it easy — live it up!

What do you think of a man like that? I don't know what you think but I know what God said. "But God said unto him, 'Thou fool, this night shall thy soul be required of thee: then whose shall these things be, which you have provided?' " Jesus said, "So is he that layeth up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

The only way to be rich toward God is to help somebody in need. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, you have done it unto me." "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

When God blesses us with the good things of life He wants us to help others too. We don't know how long we will live here. When God calls us we will have to go and we won't be able to take anything with us. Like the rich man who would build greater barns, we will have to leave it all.

LEARN

The study of the Bible consists of reading, listening, and understanding its message. A believer in Christ seeks the scripture on a frequent basis as a means to learn of the Lord, His will, and as a guide for action in his/her life. John 5:39; I Tim. 4:13-16, II Tim. 3:14-17, Matt. 11:28-29, Luke 4:4, James 1:22-23. Have we read the Bible?

Jesus overcame the temptations of Satan by knowing and using scripture. Matt. 4:1-10. Was this account recorded to be an example for us? Do we overcome temptation by knowing and using scripture?

We are told (Matt. 24:4-11) that in the last days there will be false teachers. How will we know them? Our only defense is our knowledge of the scripture. Read the Bible.

Add to you reading: discussions, questions, research, use of additional sources - history books, commentaries, prayer and practice. You will learn. When you need clarification, seek the knowledge of your ministers and Elders.

Begin today, to increase your knowledge of the scripture and "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom." Colossians 3:16.

Sister Beverly Frost
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THE LIFE OF PAUL

There are some men whose lives it is impossible to study without receiving the impression that they were placed in this old world to do a special work. It seems to me this fits the life of Paul. He was our first missionary. He was born in Tarsus of Cilicia about the time Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea. He lived in Tarsus till he was thirteen or fourteen years of age. At this time Paul did not know any thing about Jesus, but later in life he learned about Jesus and returned to the town of Tarsus and preached the doctrine of salvation which Jesus had brought into this world.

We find he was named Paul and Saul, both probably at the time of circumcision. He was named the Jewish name Saul and the Roman name Paul. He of course was sent to school, when he was old enough, as his parents were Jews, a people who were carefully educated. They regarded it a crime not to educate their children. He finished his course at the early age of fourteen at Tarsus, then he went to Jerusalem and finished a course there, again returning to Tarsus remaining there about seven or eight years.

During the years that Paul was absent from Jerusalem, John the Baptist came preaching repentance in the Jordan valley, preparing the way for the Savior of the world. Then Jesus came and was baptized of John and went throughout Palestine with the Twelve and others preaching, healing the sick, raising the dead, and doing many wonderful miracles.

After Jesus' three short years or more was spent and the time had come for Him to return to His Father, His disciples or Apostles carried on the work He had left them through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Now the Jews, who had caused Jesus to be crucified began to be alarmed and tried to keep the Apostles from preaching by persecuting them. Paul at this time returned to Jerusalem. He was elected a member of the Sanhedrin. One of the most prominent men among the disciples of Jerusalem was Stephen. He was one of those seven men commonly referred to as the seven deacons. Of course, they did not like his preaching, so they laid plans to bring him before the council. We find Stephen had no fear and was not troubled because he had the truth on his side. I am sure he was more than happy that he was counted worthy to suffer shame for the sake of Jesus.

When he was given liberty to preach, he stood forth and preached to the men of the Sanhedrin a powerful sermon. It was the Jewish custom, when a man was put to death in this way that the men who had borne witness against him were required to cast the first stone. The witnesses removed their outer garments to stone Stephen and laid them at Paul's feet. He saw the stones fall upon Stephen, he saw Stephen as he looked into Heaven and beheld the glory of God and Jesus at His right hand and he saw him when he kneeled down praying with a loud voice for his murderers until he died.

Here Paul witnessed the first martyr for Christ. We so often wonder why he was not made to believe at this very moment, after witnessing such a scene and seeing the wonderful faith Stephen had in his blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Paul at once decided to make a trip to Damascus to see if there was any one who believed in Jesus there and if so to bind them and bring them to Jerusalem for trial. But as Paul was on his way there, a journey of probably five or six days, Jesus met him. It was mid-day. The Glory of God outshone the sun. Paul, blinded, fell to the ground. Paul was very much aware that this was Jesus. Jesus said, "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest." Here he did not try to deny the Savior. He realized his past life was a failure and a mistake in God's sight. How sad it is that we don't take the time to check our past life and to see how far we have come short.

Jesus told him to go to Damascus where Ananias would tell him, in three days, what he must do. Ananias, the good saint of God, laid his hands upon him and he received his sight. He then arose and was baptized. Paul knew without a doubt that it was Jesus who had changed his life. The truest motto for his life, to me, would be his own words, "I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." Indeed, so perfectly was Christ formed in him that we can seem to see Christ's character in his. So we say, as we study the life of Paul, we can even learn more of Christ. Paul was a great thinker. He never left a project till it was completed.

Christ's death became one of Paul's subjects. Why it was needed and its results. His devotion to Christ made him become the Thinker of Christianity, not only the Church's greatest thinker, but the greatest worker she has ever known. I think Paul often would have liked to have blotted out his past life before he accepted Jesus. All along he felt he was the least of all the Apostles, not even worthy to be called an Apostle because he had persecuted the Church of God. In the years before his conversion he went through a course of preparation which he was not aware of, that had prepared him for the great life ahead of him after he accepted Christ.

Ananias was probably the leading man in the small community of believers at Damascus. He was told in a vision of the change which had come to Paul and was sent to restore his sight and to admit him into the Christian Church by baptism. It must have been a very touching scene when this man of God approached the man who had come to the city to take his life. Ananias forgave him and clasped him in his arms with Christian Love. Again, when Paul had received his sight he learned from this great man of God the future the Saviour had for him. He was to be a vessel to carry His name to the Gentiles and to kings and to the Children of Israel. Paul accepted this mission, going forth carrying the message of Salvation to the dying world. He was a faithful worker for the Lord.

Paul's life was a miracle of divine grace and he was always so happy in the work of the Lord. He loved to preach the Gospel. He had not expected to come to Rome as a chained prisoner, perhaps, but that is the way God took to answer his prayer. We know God moves in mysterious ways His wonders to perform. His desire to see Rome was fulfilled. The city of Rome burned. This doubtless led to Paul's re-arrest as a prominent leader among the Christians. He was brought back to Rome about the spring of 68 A.D., where he again was imprisoned, this time in close confinement and was put to death during the summer of that year.

Paul did not see the death, but the victory. "A Home not made

with hands, eternal in the heavens." As he kneels to receive the fatal blow, one can almost hear him repeat, "So when this corruptible shall put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?... Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Sister E. M. Alltus

THE ENIGMA OF PAIN REFLECTS THE MYSTERY OF GOD

By Kristi Hermeier

The experience of pain, in whatever form it takes, is universal. Human suffering is one of the world's greatest unanswered questions. Especially during the newness of the Christmas season, do we become more and more aware of the mystery involved in it.

I'm not writing this article to attempt an answer to the suffering question. I am writing, instead, simply to share some of my thoughts and experiences on the matter. Also, perhaps by examining my mistakes and efforts in dealing with pain, you will have something to fall back on when it comes your way... as it inevitably will.

Just by way of background, I was on Cross Fire '75, the team to West Africa. I spent much of the fifteen months we traveled in pain and incredible fatigue. I never really took it too seriously, as most of us were sick regularly. It became frustrating for me, and the entire team, though, when my illness outweighed my healthy times.

The situation reached a crisis the final month of team when I just couldn't continue. I was hospitalized at the end of August, 1976, and due to the persistence of a caring doctor, discovered I was the victim (and had been for years) of an incurable, and oftentimes cruelly painful disease called Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. Lupus for short. The cause and cure remain unknown.

I remember laying in the hospital in a state of disbelief. My head whirled with questions, but none so prevalent as the eternal "why?" Why me... why now... why this?

I was suddenly faced with the reality that I would be dealing with pain on a day to day basis for the rest of my life. In the fear that such thoughts bring, I began to observe the attitudes toward suffering in the people around me.

Most of us view pain as something alien, something to eradicate and be rid of as quickly as possible. This attitude may be fine when

you deal with ills that are temporal, definable, and curable. But not all suffering falls into these categories.

What do we say to those ills and accidents which leave their victims permanently disabled, disfigured, or mentally incapacitated? We cannot simply dismiss them. They are real, and difficult, and very much a mystery.

When a Christian deals with life situations, she must keep in mind the fact that God is a mystery. He cannot be defined or explained by our limited knowledge. Who hasn't heard someone in desperation or grief ask the unanswerable "why?" And who has the power and wisdom to respond?

Once we accept that sometimes there are no answers, at least for now, we experience a release of those gnawing doubts, and become free to start learning. When there are no answers, only questions for us, we must look to Christ, and His example.

Jesus felt. He hurt and laughed, suffered and died as we all must. He was and is God incarnate, sensitive counselor to our despair, as He has felt the very same pain we feel.

C. S. Lewis, upon the death of a dear friend wrote in his book, "A Grief Observed": When I lay these questions before God, I get no answer. But, a rather special no answer. It is not a locked door. It is more like a silent, certainly not unkind gaze. As though He shook His head, not in refusal, but waiving the question. Like, "Peace Child, you don't understand."

The enigma of pain reflects the mystery of God. It begins as a journey of trust. We can choose to accept and deal with our frailty, or state, like Ivan Dostoevsky, "If God offered me suffering as a pass through life, I for one would return the ticket." We can face, and even learn from the realities of our humanity, or we can run from them.

Why must suffering remain a mystery? I can't give a pat answer, but isn't it true that the times we are closest to the Lord are those times in which we have no control? For me, these are also the hours of my greatest sensitivity and compassion for those near me.

It's only when our efforts to rationalize and eradicate seemingly useless pain are gone, and we reach the end of our own rope, that we see Christ's strength available to us. If the mystery were fully explained, there would be no crisis. Most of all, there would be no need of our faith walk with God.

Pain and suffering are not some type of Cosmic Character Builders sent by the Almighty. They are, however, used (by Him) to strengthen and cleanse our relationship with Himself and with each other.

As Christians we believe that God's promises are true. Rom. 8:28 reminds us that the Lord is ever present and working in our trials. Sometimes this is comforting, but often the pain is still there, and still very hard to cope with.

Just because we know we are living a mystery, and God is using it, doesn't make us hurt any less. But so much of our suffering depends upon our attitude toward it.

It's very human, and necessary, I believe, to experience fear, anger, selfpity, and even bitterness. We wouldn't be normal if these emotions didn't pass through us. I think so often of one of my African friends, who, when I reached a high-pitched frustration, would always shake his head and say, "Kristi, it will pass."

It will pass. Fear, and all of the so-called "negative" emotions that follow it, can be healthy, normative, and even creative forces in our lives. An emotionally well balanced human is capable of them all. They only become evil when we allow them to immobilize us and blind us to the lessons we could be learning.

Personally, I have chosen to concentrate on life, my life as it is now. I cannot wish the pain away, or ignore it. It has become a very real part of who I am. But what I can do, whether I am suffering or not, is to concentrate on the health that exists inside of me. The acceptance of my human condition, in the light of God's promises, leads to a fresh hope, and a new peace of mind.

As I study the Bible, I'm always amazed at the incredible sensitivity Jesus has toward us. We humans, unfortunately, are much more egocentric in our view of suffering. We usually mean well, but never quite know what to say or do.

In sharing with a person in pain, or dealing with it yourself, it is vital to remember that the suffering Christian lives with a constant reminder of his/her fraility. There is no question that God heals, likewise there is no question that we don't always understand how He does so.

Ours is not a total theology of glory. We live, as Martin Luther puts it, "In the shadow of the Cross." We must take this cross seriously, with all of its implications.

There is no victory without defeat, glory without shame, or health without suffering. For example: I cannot say that I have been healed of my disease. I can say, however, that I have been healed of many other things through my disease. I've never felt as loved as when I discovered I had Lupus. I saw Christ alive through the caring of His church, and I experienced, firsthand, the sensitivity and faith of His followers. Healing with suffering... victory, in the shadows.

I'd like to tell you that I accept and trust at all times, but I can't. I'm constantly reminded of my mortality. But I'm also reminded that in the shadow (or light?) of the cross, and God's promise of redemption through Christ, there is hope.

In closing out my thoughts, I think it's important to mention a little bit on the practical side of sensitivity to the suffering person. I believe the most important attitude you can take is honesty.

A person is rarely alone in his pain. If there are people around who care, they will be suffering also. If you find yourself in that boat, don't be afraid to admit you're afraid. Be honest about your feelings, hurts and fears.

If you're angry or confused, talk about it — it helps. Be supportive of the suffering person, but don't pity him. Let him know you care by being yourself, that is, after all, who they love and need.

Accept the ills of those you're dealing with as a part of themselves. A very real part. Most of all, don't underestimate them. They will fight the pain, fear, and desperation hand in hand with you, and with our Lord.

I hope some of the things I've talked about will help you in your trials. I hope it helps the next time you hold me, or someone like me as they cry. I hope most of all, you use your experience in suffering to grow in sensitivity, and that our God will burn into your conscience your need of Him in health as well as pain. This Christmas, may you be guided by the tender compassion of our bleeding Savior.

Selected from Luther College
COLLAGE by
Sister Juanita Reed

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR OCTOBER

Oct. 7 — Hearken Unto God. Isaiah 51:1-23 (50:1-11).

Oct. 14 — "Break Forth Into Joy." Isaiah 52:1-15.

Oct. 21 — The Suffering Saviour. Isaiah 53:1-12.

Oct. 28 — "Sing, O Barren." Isaiah 54:1-17.

QUESTIONS:

- (1) Who are the children of Abraham? Rom. 9:7-8; John 8:39.
- (2) What is the blessing of the redeemed of the Lord? Isaiah 51:11.
- (3) Who was the prophet speaking of when he said, "His image was so marred more than any man and his form more than the sons of men." Isa. 52:14; Isa. 53:3.
- (4) Why did it please God to bruise His Son — to put Him to grief? Isa. 53:10-12.
- (5) Who is the barren woman in Isaiah 54? Isa. 54:17.

IDLE WORDS

Idle words say nothing —
Though many things they show;
They mar the beauty of the soul —
Though once as white as snow!
They leave a strain, a scar, a blot,
When spoken by the fair —
And add unto the weary still;
Another weight of care.

The perfect man withholds them,
The fool by these is known,
It's by God's Grace we overcome,
We'll reap as we have sown.
And too, vain words deceive us,
We count them little things,
But like the crooked scorpion, —
Those too, have bitter stings!

They are as fetters to the soul,
They bind to things below;
Their powers to thwart God's purpose,
Himself, alone, can know.
They are as thieves, we bid them come,
They rob us of God's best,
They make His presence flee away,
And take away our rest.

The sun of time is sinking,
Our journey soon is o'er,
And we shall reap their emptiness,
Perhaps, for ever more!
Except the Blood shall cover,
And they shall be forgiven,
Then let us lay them all aside,
And press our way to heaven.

— Ethel Meadows

Selected by Brother Lester M. Flora



KING'S DAUGHTER—A poor but godly woman called to see two rich young ladies, also Christians. Their brother was astonished to find this plain-looking woman in their elegant home, but one of the sisters kindly introduced her, and said: "Brother, this is a King's daughter, only she has not yet received her fine robes."

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Bro. Paul Hartz, Jr. is: 157 Lincoln Street, Palmyra, Pennsylvania 17078.

WEST FULTON, OHIO

The Lord willing, the revival meetings at West Fulton will begin September 30 and continue for two weeks. Bro. Virgil Leatherman of Littlestown, Pennsylvania, will be our evangelist.

We extend a hearty invitation to all who can come, to worship with us. Might we all pray that souls may be saved.

Sister Leola Beck, Cor.

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation, the Lord willing, plan to hold their Harvest Meeting, September 9.

Their Lovefeast meetings will be November 10 and 11. They begin Saturday at 11 A.M., services in afternoon and the Lovefeast Saturday evening. Services on Sunday.

Come enjoy these services with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhen, Cor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation will observe our Fall Lovefeast on Sunday, October 14. We invite all to come and enjoy this all day service with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

QUINTER, KANSAS

The Quinter Church plans to have a week's revival starting October 14, Lord willing. Bro. Hayes Reed will be our evangelist. Saturday, October 20, services start at 11 A.M. with Lovefeast in the evening, also Sunday services. If you cannot be with us, pray for the meetings.

Sister Ethel Whitmer, Cor.

THANKS

I wish to express my sincere thanks for the many letters, cards, telephone calls and above all for the many prayers remembering me after my accident. May the Lord richly bless each one.

Sister Sarah Roesch

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR OCTOBER, 1979

DELIVERANCE

Memory Verse: Psa. 34:7

The angel of the Lord encampeth
round about them that fear him,
and delivereth them.

Mon. 1 - Psa. 33:1-22

Tues. 2 - Psa. 34:1-22

Wed. 3 - Psa. 37:1-20

Thur. 4 - Psa. 37:21-40

Fri. 5 - Psa. 39:1-13

Sat. 6 - Psa. 40:1-17

Memory Verse: Psa. 41:1

Blessed is he that considereth the
poor: the Lord will deliver him in
time of trouble.

Sun. 7 - Psa. 41:1-13

Mon. 8 - Psa. 43:1-5

Tues. 9 - Psa. 50:1-23

Wed. 10 - Psa. 51:1-19

Thur. 11 - Psa. 54:1-7

Fri. 12 - Psa. 55:1-23

Sat. 13 - Psa. 56:1-13

Memory Verse: Psa. 56:13

For thou hast delivered my soul
from death: wilt not thou deliver
my feet from falling, that I may
walk before God in the light of
the living?

Sun. 14 - Psa. 59:1-17

Mon. 15 - Psa. 60:1-12

Tues. 16 - Psa. 69:1-17

Wed. 17 - Psa. 69:18-36

Thur. 18 - Psa. 70:1-5

Fri. 19 - Psa. 71:1-24

Sat. 20 - Psa. 72:1-20

Memory Verse: Psa. 79:9

Help us, O God of our salvation,
for the glory of thy name: and
deliver us, and purge away our
sins, for thy name's sake.

Sun. 21 - Psa. 74:1-23

Mon. 22 - Psa. 78:1-25

Tues. 23 - Psa. 78:26-48

Wed. 24 - Psa. 78:49-72

Thur. 25 - Psa. 79:1-13

Fri. 26 - Psa. 81:1-16

Sat. 27 - Psa. 82:1-8

Memory Verse: Psa. 86:13

For great is thy mercy toward me:
and thou hast delivered my soul
from the lowest hell.

Sun. 28 - Psa. 86:1-17

Mon. 29 - Psa. 89:1-25

Tues. 30 - Psa. 89:26-52

Wed. 31 - Psa. 91:1-16

Memory Verse: Psa. 91:15

He shall call upon me, and I will
answer him: I will be with him in
trouble: I will deliver him, and
honour him.

Lester Fisher
4664 N. State Rte. 48
Covington, OH 45318

(USPS 054-780)

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVII

OCTOBER 1, 1979

NO. 19

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

HELP US TO HELP EACH OTHER, LORD

Help us to help each other, Lord,
Each other's cross to bear;
Let each his friendly aid afford,
And feel his brother's care.

Help us to build each other up,
Our little stock improve;
Increase our faith, confirm our hope,
And perfect us in love.

Up into thee, the living Head,
Let us in all things grow,
Till thou hast made us free indeed,
And spotless here below.

Then, when the mighty work is wrought,
Receive thy ready bride:
Give us in heav'n a happy lot
With all the sanctified.

— Charles Wesley

CARING FOR PEOPLE

There are millions of dollars spent yearly to provide for the physical needs of the afflicted and the poor. The government provides extensive welfare services to the poor. Various philanthropic organizations have been established to provide educational, financial, recreational and physical benefits for those unable to provide for themselves. Various groups have been formed to study and combat various diseases and afflictions. Some groups have been formed to foster good morals in the community. These various organizations, established with good intentions, have accomplished much temporal good. But their accomplishments are limited because their purposes are worldly and their power is worldly — health, wealth and welfare are their areas of service.

Caring for people must go beyond the things and wants of this world. A person is not really cared for who does not receive spiritual care as well as physical care. Physical care has a place in the total care and concern for another. Jesus commended those who cared about the hungry, thirsty, lonely and imprisoned. He raised their service of caring for others to service for Himself. He healed and helped people with their physical and temporal needs throughout His earthly ministry, but His greatest concern was ever their Spiritual needs.

This care for people, physically and Spiritually, has been left by Him for the Church to perform. While other organizations strive to provide care they can only go so far because they forget, neglect or belittle the Spiritual needs of the needy. The Church is the only

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organization that can treat all the needs of mankind. Only the Church has salvation to offer the lost and dying soul.

The work of the Church in providing this care to the needy is an individual effort of her members. The work is not done through boards and committees but through individual Christian lives that reflect the Gospel through service and concern. Caring should be the natural thing for each Christian, who has been cared for by God and others even before becoming His child.

The Christian fulfills his duty of loving God by his concern and care for others. He cares not only for the provision of money and goods but for the needs of the invisible but eternal soul.

To express the love of God and to demonstrate care for the needy, more than sweet promises and physical gifts are necessary. The love of God has been expressed not only through the gift of His Son but also through His Word. Within the pages of the Bible will be found not only the promises of Heaven but also the warnings of Hell. Not only does He speak of saving faith but also of a Christian life to be lived. Mankind is told of judgment as well as blessings.

It is pleasant to speak of the redemption of a sinner's soul, of a Home in Heaven, of the promises given to the faithful and even to think of the escape from Hell. Many would wish to stop their caring at this point. To care for another demands explaining the sinner's sad condition, God's loving provision and the means of applying God's remedy to man's condition. The sinner needs to know that he must not only believe in God and the work accomplished by Jesus, but he must make a definite break with his life of sin, whether sinful deeds or attitudes. He must know that the baptismal waters are necessary that he might have contact with the blood of Christ, so he can come forth from that watery grave a new man, as Jesus came forth from the grave in His Resurrected glory. He must know as well that there is a Christian life that must be lived. The Christian's care must be great enough to teach even the small things needed in the Christian life.

Too often the attitude is that the small things don't really matter, that they are just rules made to satisfy a few men's whims, but they have come forth because of a need to improve and guard the Christian life. If the Christian does really care for another's spiritual life he must share these necessary things as well as the more prominent popular doctrines. True care is not only concerned with faith and love but must be broad enough to include the little things.

It is a common claim today that Christianity and the Church have lost their power. If this is true, could it be that Christians have lost their power because they do not care enough for the small things

of the Christian life? Do you care about people? Do you care enough to teach and practice the total Christian life?

STRAIGHTWAY

"Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishers. And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to be fishers of men. And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him." Mark 1:16-18.

The word "straightway" is used many times in the Bible. We do not use it so much in our time. Webster's dictionary defines it to mean, "immediately", "without delay."

In our daily walk of life how many times are we prompted to write a letter or make a phone call to someone who is sick or lonely, or to take time out to visit someone who is sick? Do we straightway stop what we are doing? We should answer these promptings without delay.

Yesterday I could have talked to my friend.

Today, he is lying silent and still.

And that's what we get and deserve in the end,

Around the corner, a vanished friend.

In the story of Saul's conversion in Acts 9:18 it says, "And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized." Verse 20, "And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God."

That night that Paul and Silas prayed and sang songs in prison, the great earthquake opened the doors. The jailer, much frightened, asked them, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, ... And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway." Acts 16:30b-33.

Jesus does not advocate putting off till tomorrow what needs to be done. When the Pharisees watched Him to see if He would heal a man who had dropsy on the Sabbath Day, Jesus asked them, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath Day?" And Jesus healed the man.

And Jesus "answered them, saying, Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the Sabbath Day?" Luke 14:5.

John 6:18-21, "And the sea arose by reason of a great wind that blew, So when they had rowed about five and twenty or thirty

furlongs, they see Jesus walking on the sea, and drawing nigh unto the ship: and they were afraid. But he saith unto them, It is I; Be not afraid. Then they willingly received him into the ship; and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went." Miracles happen when Jesus gets in the ship with us. But how quickly we forget.

James tells us we are like a man beholding his natural face in a glass or a mirror. "For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." James 1:24-25.

If we would be wise, we would straightway heed the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea;
Day by day, I hear Him saying,
Christian, Come and follow me.

Sister Edyth Kline

THE GOOD FIGHT

Christ our Saviour endured severe hardships. In His saving Gospel we have also the record of many hardships, faithful soldiers of the Cross endured. True soldiers of the Cross of Christ are not tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine. We believe the Apostle Paul thought of his struggles, hardships and the opposition against him when he said, "I have fought a good fight."

The weapons of the Christian's welfare are not carnal. We need the sword of spirituality and a desire to never surrender to the forces of evil. We need to stand by the Word of God, which is sharper than any two edged sword. "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." I Tim. 6:12. We need a strong determination to stand for truth and righteousness at all times. We need the sword of the Spirit.

The faithful Apostles met many hardships through their labors in their faithful service to the Lord. When the Apostle Paul and Silas were put in prison because of their faithful service to the Lord, they sang praises to the Lord and they were rescued by the power of God. When Paul was nearing the end of his time on earth he thought of the hindrances and opposition against him when he said, "I have fought a good fight... I have kept the faith." II Tim. 4:7. After he was converted to Christ, he remained faithful to the end. We also have the record of others, in the Gospel of Christ, who

endured severe hardships and remained faithful unto the end. These true soldiers of the Cross of Christ held the highest possession in the world. The threat of death did not hinder these faithful soldiers of the Cross of Christ from going forward.

The Apostle Paul's warnings to Timothy show to us he was also deeply concerned about the future Church. We have seen in our time when hearts filled with envy have become a hindrance to faithful service in the Lord's work. Some have suffered because of their desire and faithful service to the Lord. We should continue faithful. Many times the way of truth and righteousness is evil spoken of by those who are overcome by evil. We need to stand opposed to Antichristianism. True soldiers of the Cross will endure hardships rather than surrender to the forces of evil. We should be determined like the faithful Apostles to never give up. In our time on earth we have seen much departing and falling away from the path of truth and righteousness. We may feel at times we cannot continue, but by the help of the Lord we can continue.

We experience in life's pathway doing good for people who return hardships and evil against us. This is the trying of our faith. We can lean on the Everlasting Arms. In this life many suffer because of the evil deeds of others. Also many are suffering because of their life in sin — it has its reward. Our trials and temptations here will make us richer There if we endure to the end.

Today we have many professing ministers of the Gospel who fail to preach against sin but go along with it. If the blind lead the blind they will both fall in the ditch. In our day many will not endure sound doctrine and have heaped to themselves teachers having itching ears. Our duty is to stand against wickedness and oppose it to the end. Press onward and forward "...toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." May we be among the faithful soldiers of the Cross of Christ who at the end will receive the Great Crown of life.

Brother J. F. Marks
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THE CASE OF THE FRUSTRATED HEART

When you see someone who is bitter and resentful, one who is always ready for a fight, what is your reaction? You may think he or she is just self-centered and hard to get along with, but look a little deeper. The faultfinding and complaints being expressed often do not indicate the real problem. Their continual anger and bad language may be an effort to convey the message "I'm hurting and I need help." It is a heart-need that is being expressed — the need

to be loved, to have someone care, and especially to have you care enough to show them the way of true peace in Jesus Christ.

It is strange, but true, that a heart in its "fight for survival" often rejects or appears to reject the very help that's needed so much. It is somewhat like a drowning person who puts up such a fight that you can't help him, even though the thing he wants most is to be rescued. You have to wait until he gives up and quits struggling before you can do anything. In the meantime, you must watch for the right moment to help. You must wait also for the right moment to tell about Jesus, that moment when the Spirit shows you that He has prepared a receptive heart.

When someone who doesn't know the Lord is continually bombarded by trouble, illness or other misfortunes, he or she will fight back. Without divine care, it is no wonder that a person reacts violently to threats against his personal happiness. If you respond to the bitter, hateful attitudes of a frustrated heart with unkindness, you only add fuel to the fire. "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger." Prov. 15:1. When someone is fighting back to real or imagined enemies, a few kind words from you can help. Sometimes your greatest kindness will be to just listen and say nothing. It isn't pleasant to listen while ill feelings are poured out, but the fact that you listen says "I care about you." It is more important to convey your love and concern than it is to say alot.

Human wisdom isn't sufficient when dealing with a problem like this. A heart not at peace with God and extreme frustration with life go hand in hand. Seek the Lord's guidance so you know when to speak up and when to keep still, lest you add to the frustration. God alone knows when a heart is ready to hear the message of Christ and after the message is given, He alone can impart faith to the heart of the one you've witnessed to. You must wait on the Lord and move according to His guidance if you really want to help.

Sometimes you must look beyond alot of surface turmoil and confusion to see the real need and desire of someone's heart. Where there is no peace of heart, there can be no peace of mind or body. The symptoms you see on the surface may be just that — only symptoms. The real need is covered up. You can be sure that no one is going to wear a label which says "I need help and I need Jesus," even though that is exactly what is needed. You need a vision of the person's real need and his potential as a child of God; only God can provide you with that insight and understanding.

A frustrated heart wants peace but has only turmoil. Such turmoil is in the heart of one who is not a child of God. "But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt." Isa. 57:20. An unbeliever's heart and

churning waters are alot alike — neither has peace. To have peace and something real to hold on to, we must have the Lord in our hearts. Frustration, turmoil and disappointment add up to defeat, but in the Lord there is victory. Even when everything goes wrong, we can have peace in the Lord.

"Better is a handful with quietness, than both the hands full with travail and vexation of spirit." Ecc. 4:6. So many people have plenty of things — both hands are full — but there is no contentment. Nothing goes right, they complain, they seek satisfaction and peace in every way but the right way. All they get is more trouble and turmoil. It is better to have a little — a handful — and have the Lord's peace in our hearts. The value of true peace and contentment is above measure.

"No God — no peace; know God — know peace." When someone knows God he or she will also know peace. This doesn't mean that we'll never have any problems, but that we will have peace in spite of our problems. "These things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33. Because Jesus has overcome the world, we can also. He wants us to share this good news with those who have troubled and frustrated hearts, so share it with love.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27. If you have a troubled and frustrated heart, you can have something much better if you give Jesus your heart. He will give you His peace; He will bring stability to your life and make it really worthwhile. "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Ph. 4:7. This promise is to believers in Christ and He will keep all of you, if you will give Him your heart.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

MAKING THE MOST OF LIFE

Jesus taught us we could make the most of life by losing it. If we lose our life for His sake we will find it. We must bruise the wheat before it can be made into bread to feed the hungry. The same with life, whole, unbruised, unbroken men and women are of little use to Christ. Until we overcome our selves, we have not begun to live.

We can not be helpful to others until we cease to live for self. Take the history of the tree. It is cut into boards and built into a beautiful cottage where human hearts find their happy home, or used for other purposes to create joy and happiness for mankind.

The losing of its life was the saving of it, by its death it became useful.

Take a church building. The stones that are used to erect the foundation were taken from a bed of rock, destroying the bed which had been there for years, but the rocks are now dressed and chiseled into form. They are destroyed only that they might be useful. They become a part of a building where sinners will find Christ and sorrowing ones will be comforted. We must die to be useful. In a parable of our Lord we find that the seed must fall into the earth and die that it might bear fruit. We know when Christ died on the cross that He lost His life that we might have life.

Many missionaries lives are lost on the foreign field. Through their deaths, men and women are brought to see a better life. In heart and spirit we must do the same. If we ever want to be a blessing, we must die to live. We must lose our life to save it; we must lay self on the altar in order to glorify God and to do good to mankind.

Mary broke the vase of ointment and poured it upon her Lord. She lost it but through this deed she spread to the world her mission of helpfulness. If she would have saved it, her deed of loving service could never have been spread over the world. Her loving service will be remembered forever.

We cannot save ourselves and at the same time make anything worthy of our life or be a blessing to the world. The first requirement is not to be a preacher, a saver of souls, but the first thing in a Christian life is to present one's self to God, to lay one's self on the altar. We must give our hearts first. We cannot be God's today and our own tomorrow; we must be His at all times. He does not expect any half-way service; He wants the whole heart. If Christian service were all in preaching and praying, it would be very discouraging for people who are not gifted with those talents. Our tongues are not the only thing we can use to glorify God. Many people in silence can be followers of Christ and do a wonderful work in saving many precious souls. A star does not talk but shines out for the whole world.

After Jesus had a glimpse of the higher thing in the Temple, He went back to the lowly home in Nazareth, and there, for eighteen more years, found enough for the development of the richest nature this world ever saw. It is hard to toil and never rest, to earn scarce enough to clothe and feed those who depend on us for care. It is hard to meet temptation and keep pure, unspotted from the world, ready for our Heavenly home, any hour our blessed Master may call. It is no wonder we sometimes get discouraged and lose heart. We are like the weary disciples who after toiling all night caught no fish. But we must not forget the vision that awaited

them with the coming of dawn — the blessed Savior standing on the shore. Oh, what a wonderful blessing that proved to be.

When we, His children, are tempted, we must remember He is ever ready to help us if we put our trust in Him. Christ is ever ready to give victory and to guide us to a higher life. When we can actually realize Christ's help, life is easier. There is only one thing a Christian needs to keep in mind — be faithful always and loyal to our blessed Master. If we have the power of putting into words the thought and emotions of our souls, that others may understand them, it is one of the most marvelous powers the Creator can bestow upon us. There are times when we pray, that we cannot find words to express our inward feelings, but Christ hears our thoughts in Heaven, for He knoweth the thoughts and the intentions of our hearts.

So, dear ones, let us be careful that our thoughts are pure and holy. Sometimes the greatest blessings come when we wait; it takes time for fruit to ripen. There was a wonderful power in the touch of Christ, while here on earth. A true follower can feel this touch today. There is another way in which the hand of Christ is laid on human lives. His disciples were sent into the world to preach Christ. A true Christian life is only the faintest reproduction of the rich, blessed life of Christ, yet by this means many have been won to Christ.

All around us are human lives, rich in possibilities of beauty and glory. Often all they need is the touch of the hand of God to bring out this radiance, the loveliness, the beauty of the divine Image in them. In our Christian lives, we have trials to meet and hard burdens to bear. Every burden God lays upon us, there is a blessing for us if only we are able to comprehend it.

Only a thot, but the work it wrought
Could never by pen or tongue be taught
For it ran thro' life like a thread of gold,
And the life bore fruit a hundred fold.

In Christ nothing that is good or lowly can be really lost. Nothing beautiful ever perishes. Abraham died on the way to the promised land, but in his heart were the things that were better than a country, an earthly home which fadeth away, but a life of obedience, faith and a reward. When we leave this old world our form will vanish or be lost, but our spirit liveth forever.

Let us hope on though the way be long
And the darkness be gathering fast;
For the turn in the road is a little way farther on
Where the home lights will greet us at last.

Sister E. M. Alltus
Modesto, California

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

SOLOMON DIDN'T HAVE IT!

LUKE 12:22-34

Solomon was the wisest man in all the earth. His fame was in all the nations around him, so the kings of the earth came to hear his wisdom. Because Solomon didn't ask God for riches or honor but for understanding that he might rule the nation of Israel, God not only gave him an understanding heart but also riches and honor. There was none like King Solomon before nor since. When the Queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to Jerusalem to prove him with hard questions. Solomon answered them all. When she had seen Solomon's wisdom and the house that he had built and all his riches she said to the king, "It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom. Howbeit, I believed not the words until I came and mine eyes had seen it; and behold, the half was not told me."

There are many things that we have today that Solomon never saw. He didn't have an automobile, nor had he ever seen an airplane, a steamboat, a train, a radio, a television, a telephone, a refrigerator, or a vacuum sweeper. Many things that we think common-place, Solomon didn't know about.

One time Jesus was talking to His disciples about how we shouldn't worry. He said, "Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, neither for the body, what you shall put on. Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If God then clothe the grass, which is today in the field and tomorrow is cast in the oven; how much more will He clothe you, O, ye of little faith."

Jesus wants us to completely trust Him for everything. Today, we live in a time of mechanical marvels but we should not put our trust in them. Even the lilies of the field have more beauty than all of Solomon's glory. God's power is unlimited. Jesus can do anything! If we put our trust in Him, He will supply all our needs and bless us in ways that were unknown to Solomon. Today we have the Gospel of Jesus revealed to us. If we choose to serve Jesus, He has promised us eternal life. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Solomon didn't have it!

Brother Rudy Cover

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation (Act of Aug. 12, 1970: Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code). Showing the ownership, management and circulation of The Bible Monitor, published semi-monthly at Wauseon, Ohio 43567, October 1, 1979.

1. The names and addresses of the editor, publishers, and owners are: EDITOR, Milton Cook, Apt. 3, 1309 W. Lynne Ave., Anaheim, Calif. 92802; PUBLISHER, Glanz Lithographing Company, 4-4017-11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567; OWNER, Dunkard Brethren Church, Apt. 3, 1309 W. Lynne Ave., Anaheim, Calif. 92802.

2. There are no stockholders, bond holders or other security holders.

3. The average number of copies per issue distributed by mail and otherwise the previous twelve months was 1,273.

ONLY ONCE

"You live only once,"
Some folks will say,
So get all you can
Out of each single day.
You've one chance to enjoy life;
Then why not be merry?
Live just for yourself,
About others don't worry.

You live only once
In this world of sin,
So try many souls
For the Master to win.
You've one chance to impart life,
Then why not be true?
Live only for others
Whatever you do.

You live only once
In this world of care!
But, "mansions eternal
I go to prepare,"
Are the words of cheer
That the Savior spake
To all who are willing
Their cross to take.

— Clara M. Hess
Selected by Sister Della Ebling

ARE WE RAISING GOD'S BANNER HIGH?

Many times as church members we can get the feeling that we are pretty good because we wear plain clothes and follow more of the Lord's commandments and ordinances than many other churches. Many of us are so bountifully blessed with farms and lands and this world's goods and have so much prosperity on every hand. God's Word says "all our righteousness is as filthy rags." How satisfied and justified do we feel? Have we been rocked to sleep?

Many people in our world do not believe in doctors. Some believe only in medicine, others in just certain foods. We as Christians should do all we can for our bodies and then only what we can't do, God will take care of.

I believe we are being robbed of our spiritual life in this day in which we live and especially among our children. Do we see that public schools are robbing many of our children of their Spiritual life? How many children do you know whose faith has been strengthened going to a public school? How many do you know whose faith is weaker or gone completely? We know today there is almost no prayer or Bible reading in school. More and more, as time goes on, we see the increase of wickedness and unbelief in our schools. Teachers do all sorts of ungodly acts. Hardly a Christian teacher is to be found anywhere. If we were to go to our School Board and ask how the schools are today, we would receive a reply that the schools and teachers are better than ever. Can we trust the words of unbelievers? Can we trust them to teach our children? These teachers and principals are looking at acts and deeds through the eyes of ungodly people. God's Word says, "...come out from among them, and be ye separate." And again, "...what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?" Do we wonder why so many children are lost to the world? Do we wonder if we or our Churches have failed? Are we doing all that we can and letting God do the rest?

Do we wonder why there are so many Christian Schools springing up around our country? Many teachers believe in drinking, smoking, adultery, divorce, abortion and even homosexuality. Do we see these things in our schools? These are all signs of the Antichrist in our schools. When teachers themselves are unbelievers and believe not God's Holy Word, how can we trust our little ones to them? We are to raise our children in the way of the Lord and when they are old they will not depart from it. Do we feel that because we came through the public schools and accepted our Lord, so will our children. Do we know just how much our schools have changed since we went to school? We

know as time goes on things shall wax worse and worse. Are we doing all we can for our Church and children and letting God do the rest? Are we coming out from among them and being a separate people? Are we doing only some and then expect miracles? Do we wonder why children turn against parents and parents against children?

Our God is just as strong and powerful as in past ages but I fear we may have lost some of the power, we should have, through worldliness and cares of this world. Have we forsaken all and live only for Him? Are we yielded completely to His will or do we live partly for ourselves? Are we raising God's banner high?

Brother Frank Beck

R. 1, Bernville, Pennsylvania

19506

MARRIAGE

ST. JOHN - EBY

Elder and Sister Dean St. John, Camden, Michigan and Brother and Sister George Eby, Wauseon, Ohio, announce the marriage of their children, Sister Marla Jo St. John and Brother G. William Eby, on Saturday, August 4, 1979.

The new couple is at home at: 5-4848-19, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

NEWS ITEMS

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lititz Congregation plans to have their Lovefeast, Saturday, October 20, starting at 2 o'clock with the Lovefeast in the evening.

A hearty invitation is extended to ministers and all who can attend.

Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

GOSHEN, INDIANA

The Lord willing, the Goshen Congregation will hold a ten day Revival from October 26 through November 4. Brother Dale Jamison of Quinter, Kansas will be the Evangelist.

Saturday, November 3, there will be services at 2:00 p.m. with a Lovefeast that evening. All are invited to come and share in these services with us.

Sister Susie Gunderman, Cor.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to thank all who sent me birthday cards, gifts and money. I received seventy-six cards. I also wish to thank the group who came in and sang for us here in the Home. I appreciate it all so much. May God Bless You! Thanks also for your prayers.

Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

A SERMON IN A SONG

I was just a poor lost sinner,
Till Jesus came my way
He smiled into my eyes and said,
"Come walk with me today!"
A sinner! a poor lost sinner!
Not fit to company
With Jesus Christ, the sinless One,
Nor walk with royalty.
Me! A sinner! A poor lost sinner!
He wore a diadem!
I was not worthy e'en to touch
His very garment's hem!

I looked upon His loving smile,
His gracious hands outspread,
I saw my sinful worthless self
And sadly shook my head.
"I cannot walk with Thee," I said,
"With sins upon my soul!"
But tenderly, He told me then
That He would make me whole.
Me! A sinner! A poor lost sinner!
Condemned eternally!
He died upon the cross Himself
That He might set me free!

Right joyously I came to Him
And took Him for my Lord.
He took my sin, He washed me white
With His own precious blood!
And some day He'll present me
To the presence of my King
Without spot or wrinkle
Or any sinful thing
Me! A sinner! A poor lost sinner!
I'm telling you it's true!
He died upon the cross for me!
He's done the same for you!

Selected by Sister Ruth Drake



People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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OCTOBER 15, 1979

NO. 20

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

DAILY PRAYER

If I can do some good today
If I can serve along life's way,
If I can something helpful say,
Lord, show me how.

If I can right a human wrong,
If I can help to make one strong,
If I can cheer with smile or song,
Lord, show me how.

If I can aid one in distress,
If I can make a burden less,
If I can spread more happiness,
Lord, show me how.

If I can do a kindly deed,
If I can help someone in need,
If I can sow a fruitful seed,
Lord, show me how.

If I can feed a hungry heart,
If I can give a better start,
If I can fill a nobler part,
Lord, show me how.

—Grenville Kleiser
Selected by Sister Blanche Eberly

AN ENLARGED HEART

Medically speaking, an enlarged heart is a dangerous condition that can lead to a premature death. But Spiritually speaking an enlarged heart is a desirable condition. Read II Corinthians 6:11-7:1 to find Paul's comments on the development of an enlarged heart. A Spiritually enlarged heart may be parallel to the same deadly physical condition in that it leads to the death of self.

Paul first speaks of his enlarged, heart-felt love for the Brethren at Cornith. His love was not just endearing words but a full heart behind the words. Paul always had a very dear relationship with these fellow believers. He not only loved them but also had confidence in them. He was confident that they could live a Christian life even though they may have doubted their own ability. They were holding themselves back by their own straitened or narrow view.

Paul encouraged them to improve their lives by recompensing the love they had received. The love of God is best returned by showing the same kind of love to others. Paul had spent much loving service in their behalf, the repayment he desired was not only their love but their love shown to others. He was concerned for their Spiritual progress like a parent for his children. He also advised them to have an enlarged heart.

An enlarged heart is a whole heart. It is not divided in its love or its service. An enlarged Christian heart must be single in purpose and desire to carry out its expanded service. It will not allow an unequal yoke between Christ and the world.

Paul warns against being yoked with unbelievers, which

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demands a division of purpose. When the purpose is divided the heart can not be enlarged. Paul shows the impossibility of enlargement when an absurd attempt is made to join opposites into one thriving being. An unequal yoke can no more produce a vibrant, abundant Christian life than righteousness and unrighteousness can fellowship together. There may be contact between the righteous and the unrighteous but there can not be true fellowship. One or the other must prevail. There is no hope of having an enlarged heart when the unequal yoke exists in marriage, business arrangement or desires of the heart. Paul continues the thought of the divided, defeated heart by showing the impossibility of communion or common union between light and darkness. Light and dark are completely opposite of each other; they do not have anything in common. Likewise the enlarged heart can not exist beside sin and wicked desire.

Paul continues this lesson by suggesting the lack of concord between Christ and the gods of this world. There can be no concord although some would try to reconcile them into an all-encompassing philosophy, which will never make an enlarged heart. Neither can there be agreement between the believer and the unbeliever nor between the Temple of God and the godless idols of the world. Even a forced compromise between them will but make an imperfect union. The enlarged heart can not be made by philosophies and compromises with the world and its system.

The temple of God is to be a holy place, a suitable place for the indwelling of His Holy Spirit. He not only wants a place to dwell but an active place that will walk with Him and serve Him and others. To have the enlarged heart that God desires within it is necessary that there be a definite line of demarcation between the Christian and the world. There must be separation. God promises that where separation is, He will receive them and be their Father and they shall be His children. This makes complete the enlarged heart, for with God's promises within the heart can only be dedicated to His love and service. This separation demands a very definite break with the world. It entails a coming out — leaving — the past associations that were so enjoyable in the world. It demands a continual separation from those ever-near, ever-so-innocent appearing temptations of the world. It means laying aside all the unclean things that would hinder the heart's progress and enlargement or would have any appearance of evil.

Paul concludes his prescription for an enlarged heart, by reminding the Christian of the wonderful provisions and promises that God has made, then calling upon each one to cleanse themselves. His call is to cleanse away "all filthiness of the flesh and spirit." This demands an outward cleansing and separation as well

as inward. It is sometimes stated that if the heart is right all else will be right. But Paul here calls for an outward righteousness as well as an inward one. The holiness of the Christian will not be merely an inward, mystical experience it will be an outward manifestation.

Do you have an enlarged heart? If not, follow Paul's method for obtaining one.

THE SWEETNESS OF FELLOWSHIP IN CHRIST

II Tim. 4:19-21, "Salute Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick. Do thy diligence to some before winter. Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens, and Linus, and Claudia, and all the brethren."

II Tim. 4 contains the last written words of the Apostle Paul known to us. Having attempted to follow his thoughts in his former writings, we must now bid adieu to this beloved soldier of the Cross, this teacher of teachers, this called Apostle of Christ to the Gentiles. In studying his epistles we have learned to love and respect him as a very dear Brother in Christ. We sense in these last words a heart-cry for beloved brothers and sisters in Christ.

"Lord! How delightful 'tis to see

A whole assembly worship thee.

As one they sing: as one they pray

They hear of Heaven, and learn the way."

In the heavy pressure of Satan on the Church in those days, the presence of each one assembled represented another certain victory over the enemy and purposeful prayer and endeavor. Their upturned faces, glowing with the love of Christ were etched upon the memory of the speaker. The love tones of voice lingered in his ears. Their gifts caused his heart to overflow. His personal love for each one cries out in II Cor. 11:29. "Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?"

In this last chapter he leaves us the names of seventeen people who lay heavy on his heart at this time. Two of them had given him great anguish of soul. Their names stand as a warning against false teachers and designing men and women. Many seemingly strong saints of God have become ensnared by those who almost appear as "angels of light." Alas! Alas! How are the mighty fallen. The tragedy of beguiled souls, back in the ranks of Satan lay heavy on the heart of this under-shepherd of Christ. A great urgency of need for more Christian love among the saints is seen: more expressions of love and appreciation. The strong and weak alike need these hearty salutations of endearment. Loving greetings by name, should always be encouraged.

Paul here is an old man. Aged Christians are often tempted to satisfy themselves in fond memories of happy times and victories won in time past. But Paul could not allow himself to so pacify and soothe the longing heart with only memories.

Although his conscience was clear as to his endeavors for Christ, and although he declared he had finished his course, he could not and did not say that God was finished with him; nor did he resign his ministry or his Apostleship. He evidently desired to be used of God until the day of his departing. He desired his "books" and "especially the parchments." With these he would refresh his soul, ready to enjoy further fellowship with Timothy and Mark. With or without him the Gospel must go on and on to the glory of God and the Lord Jesus Christ. The beginning of his first confidence in Christ is still unshaken to the end. — "And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto His Heavenly Kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

As he departs from us we will think of him as "preserved" in a departing to be with Christ. He is "far better" off now than he was in this life.

But the sweetness of Christian fellowship remained. Christ still continued to meet with those who meet in His blessed name. Paul's last "Grace be with you. Amen" still lingered as sweet perfume in the Garden of the Lord.

"The Lord into His Garden comes.
The spices yield their rich perfumes;
The lilies grow and thrive.
Refreshing showers of grace Divine
From Jesus flow to every vine
And drooping souls revive."

— selected

The Christian Assembly is a rare and blissful garden of grace. Aromatic shrubs and rare flowers sparkling with dew in early morning light are not as sweet as the love and graces of our Lord's Beloved. Little innocent ones in the Assembly are buds of promise to learn and to help sing the praises of the Lord and listen to His Word. Song of Solomon 4:16. "Awake, O north wind; and come, thou south; blow upon my garden, that the spices thereof may flow out. Let my beloved come into his garden, and eat his pleasant fruits." The saints do well to welcome their entering Lord with joyful songs.

"This is my Beloved; His form is Divine.
His vestments shed odors around;
The locks on his head are as grapes on the vine
When autumn with plenty is crowned."

— selected

Although we know little of the precious ones named here, yet we may well visualize the glowing faces, some indeed with flowing tears of joy, welcoming their Lord's presence among them with the "sweet songs of Zion." Here were also gracious prayers; the treasured word read to waiting hearts: the quiet waiting on the Lord; the stirring testimonies and exhortations; the Holy Spirit inspired sermon, happy voices of children singing with the rest; joyful giving and sharing of means; and all too soon — the loving-clinging, loving words of parting.

In many a lowly assembly of Christian believers, the Risen Saviour entered and lingered. The words of the "King of saints" still bring blessing to fainting hearts. Song of Solomon 5:1, "I am come into my garden, my sister, my spouse: I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk: eat, O friends: drink, yea drink abundantly, O beloved."

Christians went from these times of blissful fellowship to serve the Lord with their Holy Spirit bestowed talents. Many walked in lowly paths conscious of a radiant inner Presence. Some were slaves whose Christ-like actions and words mystified and challenged their masters and mistresses to live better lives and to finally seek the Lord. Those with means became channels of God's grace to the needy. Individual saints became aware of their own calling and God-given opportunities to serve Him, in witnessing for Christ.

Our "carry away blessing" in the last verse, includes a sense of worth and Christian dignity. We are comforted, built up in the faith, and challenged to our best efforts. We feel our Lord's living closeness in verse 22. "The Lord Jesus Christ be with thy spirit. Grace be with you. Amen."

Your Brother in Christ,
James D. Cover

ENERGY SHORTAGE

In a classroom survey, a teacher asked the students to complete this sentence: "My mother says I'm _____." Several finished it with words such as "ugly," "lazy" and "worthless." Only one wrote "beautiful." Nearly every one of these students had been told he or she didn't measure up and they believed it. People, especially the young, tend to believe and conform to whatever standard is held before them. Most of these mothers had "fueled" their children with negative criticism — hardly a motivating power.

Whenever people call you "no-good," they've created an energy shortage in your life. If you consider yourself worthless and a

failure and you are continually told so, you probably won't try to be any better. Most of us go alot farther on the "fuel" of encouragement than we do on the "fuel" of criticism and sarcastic remarks. Encouragement provides motivating power and creates a desire to keep trying. It stirs within us a desire to do more and to do better, both in the Lord's service and in our daily routines.

What are you fueling others with? Condemnation, criticism, unkindness, or love, compassion and encouragement? God often spoke words of comfort to His people because He knew they needed it. He did not heap discouragement on top of the problems they already had. He promised them help: "For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee." Isa. 41:13. He also promised to be with them and protect them. "When thou passeth through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Isa. 43:2. We can't help and protect as God does, but we can offer sincere words of comfort.

It is needful to recognize mistakes for what they are, but it is also needful to encourage the one who sinned to go on to better things. Merely pointing out the wrong is not enough. Assure that one that while he can't succeed alone, it is possible to live for the Lord with His help. In Num. 21:4, it says "the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way." Their discouragement caused them to murmur and get into more trouble. When their hearts were encouraged, they got along much better, even though things were still difficult. Even when we sin, we need encouragement, just as they did.

"Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me." "Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took some meat." Acts 27:25, 36. The ship's crew responded to Paul's encouragement. They hadn't eaten for two weeks, but when Paul assured them by God's word to him that their lives would be spared, they were encouraged and ate. People will respond to your encouragement also. The more desperate their circumstances, the more they need you to help them. Words of comfort can really give a lift and new energy to a burdened heart.

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Gal. 6:2. We need to help each other and to pray for each other. Jesus was concerned about the disciples and offered reassurance when they needed it. When they saw Him walking on the water and were afraid, He said, "Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid." Matt. 14:27. Can you imagine what a relief that was to them? Many other

times, He comforted them according to their needs and He wants us to do this for each other.

"And they come unto Him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four." Mark 2:3. This took cooperation — four were needed to help one. It took concern and a willingness to do a little extra. These four gave that extra; would you? "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow; but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up." Ecc. 4:9-10. Someone needs you to renew their energy supply with some encouragement. Will you be the one to be there when someone needs you?

"I hear you're still running around with the same old friends. It doesn't look to me as if you're even trying to get back on the right track." "Is it true what I've heard about Bro. So-and-so? Now we can't have that!" Without seeking the true facts first, both persons have already been judged and condemned in the minds of those who make such comments. It doesn't help anyone when you do this. It just adds to this person's already-acute energy shortage. Such comments only bring discouragement; your job as a child of God is to bring encouragement.

"The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary." Isa. 50:4a. Sarcastic remarks and criticism which bring discouragement are not a mark of intelligence. With the Lord's help, you can be wise and know how to bring encouragement. You can ease the burdens of others and add to their energy level by having a kind of attitude toward them. God values us above all else on this earth. He wants us to value each other and consider each other worth helping. Try creating an energy surplus, not a shortage — encourage someone today!

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

A SOWER WENT FORTH TO SOW

MATT. 13:16-23; MARK 4:14-20; LUKE 8:11-15

Did you ever see a man sowing seed in a field by hand? Farmers plant their fields with tractors and drills now, but when Jesus was here people didn't have farm machinery. When they planted their fields, they carried a bag of grain and scattered it over the ground by throwing the grain by hand as they walked along.

Jesus was sitting by the sea of Galilee and many people came to hear Him. The crowd was so big that Jesus went into a boat that was in the water and taught the people who stood on the shore. Many times Jesus taught by illustrations. People in that day knew how the fields were planted and Jesus said, "Behold, a sower went forth to sow. Some seeds fell by the wayside and the fowls came and ate them: Some fell upon stony places, where there was not much earth and right away they grew up because they were not planted very deep: But when the sun came up they were scorched because the sun dried out the ground and as they had no root, they withered away. And some fell among thorns and they grew up and choked them: But other seed fell into good ground and produced fruit, some a hundred fold, some sixty and some thirty."

The disciples asked Jesus what He meant by teaching them about the sower sowing seed in a field. Jesus said, "The seed is the Word of God. Those that fell by the road or wayside are those that hear; then the devil comes like the fowls and takes away the word out of their hearts so they won't believe and be saved. Those that are on stony ground immediately hear the word with gladness but because they have no root only endure for a short time; afterward when affliction and troubles come for the word's sake they are offended. Those which fell among thorns are those which have heard the word and start out good but they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life and never grow enough to bring forth fruit." "But those that are sown on good ground are the ones that hear the word and receive it and bring forth fruit with patience."

Jesus taught the truth. There will be many people who will not appreciate God's Word as they should and will be like the seed the birds ate, or the ones on stony ground or the ones that were choked with thorns. There will also be those who are like the seed that fell on good ground and will hear God's Word and live by it. They will not be deceived by the devil. They will produce fruit for Jesus by doing good for others. What kind of ground do you want to be? I hope it is the good ground that produced fruit.

Jesus is the sower that sowed the seed and the seed is the Word of God. It is up to us to have a place in our hearts for God's Word so it will grow and cause us to live good lives and produce fruit for Jesus. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance.

Brother Rudy Cover



Virtue is not left to stand alone. He who practices it will have neighbors.

IN SUCH AN HOUR AS YE THINK NOT

The house cleaning crew had been housecleaning in the home where I live. They had finished the other end of the hall I was on. Then they did the middle portion. We thought our end would be cleaned the next day. So we had things put in the closets and drawers out of the way. Before retiring for the night, I packed the little carry-all bag on my wheelchair with the things I thought I might want to use the next day. I put in a new hank of crochet yarn, a tablet and a pen, just in case I wanted to write some letters. Then I put my Bible on top, so it would be handy for morning so I could read a portion of Scripture.

The next morning we came back from breakfast and found they were not cleaning that day. Word went around from patient to patient that they were not going to clean our rooms until the next week. We relaxed and took some of our supplies out of storage again. That night, we went to bed without preparing for the cleaners.

The next morning, we went to breakfast and came back as usual. But when we got out of the elevator, we found our beds and furniture in the hall. The cleaners had come when we had not expected them. The Word says "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the son of man cometh." Matt. 24:44. Will you be ready for that time when He comes? Or will you be like us, thinking the cleaners had not come and you wouldn't need to get ready for them until next week? Next week may never come!

There were different reactions by the patients. One cried and said, "Why, my money and clothes are back there. I will have to go back." Where is my treasure? Is it back here or is it sent on before? Today is the day of salvation; we need to be ready!

Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

GOING ALL THE WAY WITH CHRIST

When I fall to the level of the world I am not a Christian. A story is told of a man who made a purchase. He knew the price of the article was reasonable, but he was out to get a bargain. He told the salesman it was in poor condition, although he knew it was not, so he was able to purchase it at a lower price. He went out to his friends and told what a bargain he had gotten. The same thing happened to another man. This time it was a beautiful, oil painting. He realized the man that had it for sale did not know its value, so he bought it for alot less than its true value. The two men boasted about their great bargains. Read Prov. 20:14. Did these two men

show by their purchases that they were Christians. To me there is no place in a Christian life to gain at the loss of someone else. If you are honest you won't fall to the level of the world. If you are true you will want to follow Jesus.

"Follow Me." These words must have sounded strange coming from a carpenter of Nazareth. Men willingly followed Him. It is a great challenge to us, if we are His, to follow all the way like they did. If we do His will and follow Him, we will have grace to help us go all the way and in the end Heaven will be our home.

The world today seems to be divided into three groups: those who love Jesus Christ, those who hate Him, and those who are indifferent toward Him. In the world we find people who despise the Christian way of life. Others are praying for His Kingdom to come. Here, we see we are either for Him or against Him. We find those who oppose Christ are busy, diligently working to destroy all knowledge of Him from the face of the earth, trying to destroy the good works of Christ's followers. Many have lost their lives in His service becoming martyrs. Again we must strive to work harder regardless of the cost, the harvest is great. Let us try the lost ones to gain.

Let us think about our homes. Are they brightened by the love of the Lord Jesus? Is His presence felt in our homes?

There was a teenage boy who was brought up by his Christless parents, to steal and do many sinful things to help to support them. Soon this boy saw what a life he had to live so he thought he could better himself if he ran away. This is what he did. He traveled on and on till he was several hundred miles from home. He began to feel safe when in the distance he noticed a farm house. He was so very tired when he reached this home. He was greeted by a childless couple who loved the Lord and served Him. They invited him in. He was very happy. It was quite a change from his home life. They had a family altar and attended Church regularly, taking this boy along. They never heard from his parents, so in a few years they adopted him. By this time he was also a child of God. Before he was twenty-one, he was put into the ministry. He spent many years winning lost ones for the Master. This family gave him all the loving care any one could give. They were so proud of him for he had come to them as a stranger but now was out winning souls for the One who had given His Life that he might have a home in Heaven. This is one home we can use as an example of what it means to have Christ in the Home. He brightens our homes and there is no darkness.

The Bible tells us to, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6. In this old

world there has been much money and lots of thought given concerning the rearing of our dear children. When they are very young we must teach them the difference between right and wrong.

A small boy was walking with his father, after they had parked the car, but before long the boy grew tired and wanted to go back to the car. So the father told his son to be very careful because there was an old well close by the old cabin. When his father returned, his son said, "I kept away from the well by following in your tracks." What kind of tracks are we as parents leaving for our dear children to follow? If Christ is in the heart of each one in the home, there will be joy and happiness.

"God is love in the storms of life as well as in the sunshine." "God is love, no matter which way the wind blows." Let each of us ask ourself, "What kind of Home do I have? Is it a better home because I am a member of that home." So many times we braid into our lives many things we wish were not there. It is very important that our homes and families be deeply rooted in the Spirit and teachings of Christ Jesus. It is vital to parents and children alike. This way we can stand strong and deep-rooted before the strongest gales that life may bring. Let each of us see that our homes are temples of the Living God. For God ever watches over and cares for all His dear children here below.

God's care and blessings still rest upon Godly Mothers, the ones who seek diligently to bring up their children in love and devotion to Him and His will. Many times I stop and think about how God provides for our care, both in the natural and spiritual. Are we too busy to hear the Master's words? We are to wait on the Lord. Through a time of sickness, God often brings us a spiritual blessing. We must always trust Him. Never give up. We have never found a true friend like Him before. Let us go all the way.

If it wasn't for the promise of God, I am sure we would find this a very trying world to live in. We so often lack faith and seem to have nothing to depend on. Then our minds go back to the cross where Jesus cared so much for us. He was willing to give His life on that cruel cross to redeem us at any cost. When I think of those pierced hands I am made to feel like Thomas, "My Lord and my God."

I know I have been redeemed not with corruptible things such as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of my Redeemer. If only we have faith in Christ and keep on laboring in Christ's vineyard for lost souls for Him, our Spiritual life will be a success and we can enter into the Promised Land, where we can have eternal life with the Father and Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, and those of our loved ones who have gone on before. As we live here

from day to day, we must show those around us a better way of life. Tell them how much Jesus means to you. Many times I am sure each of us have hoped for things that we cannot obtain, we think we should have them but Jesus sees it a different way. It is not always the things we acquire that brings us true satisfaction and joy in this life and the life hereafter.

It is only when we love with that Christlike love and compassion, that the glow and warmth of God's blessings descend upon us. What a wonderful thing it would be if only half of the population of this world at this very moment were guided by the love of Christ. Could one imagine what the results would be? How much better the world would be. Remember Jesus is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Keeping the Holy Spirit as our guide, let us press on. Christ, many times, must have grown tired and weary but He kept on doing the work He was to do. All of His teachings, miracles and all things He said and did were by the power to the Holy Spirit.

His disciples took the Holy Spirit as their guide. They needed this power to go out and work as the Lord would have them do. the story is told of when a small girl returned from Sunday School, her grandmother asked her how many were in her class. She paused for a minute and then answered, "Counting God there were fifteen of us." Then the grandmother said, "Of course God was there." His Holy Spirit is always present. He has promised to be with us always. He is sent to guide, to teach, to comfort, to reveal His truths to us. But He only comes to those who have been bought with the precious blood of Jesus, the ones who keep all of His commandments and live according to His will. Let us use this Spirit to save the lost, by bringing them to Christ.

Sister E. M. Alltus

LEAN HARD

Leaning on the arm of Jesus,
Walking by His side,
You may trust His every promise,
He will be your guide.
He has light to gild the pathway,
Strength to hold you true,
And forgiveness for transgression,
Grace to bear you through.
He has peace to rest your spirit
When fierce trials roll,

With His comfort He can soften
Sorrows of the soul.
He leads hope beyond the shadows,
Makes the spirit free;
Darkness cannot hide the mercy
He would offer thee.
He has planned to lift the burden,
Pressing hard today;
Planned, when earthly toils are over,
To wipe all tears away.
Reach out, then, and touch His garment
While He passes by;
Till He comes the promise lingers —
"I will guide thee with Mine eye."
Fear not, then, to trust the Saviour,
Trust Him day by day,
Trust Him till earth's dimming shadows
All have passed away.

Selected by Sister Martha Shaffer

NEWS ITEMS

PRAISE

Concerning the need for a replacement van for the Torreon Mission, the need has been met. In response to a previous statement in the Bible Monitor the Lord supplied the need in a very wonderful way. Early Sunday morning it was setting in our parking lot equipped according to our needs.

Needless to say, this really opened our eyes as to how God can take care of a need. It also taught us alot about Christian stewardship. It was graciously given with the intention that it might be a blessing to the Lord's work. It was also loaded with numerous supplies for the Mission.

Funds which some of you have sent in for this purpose will be put in a special fund to be used for the next replacement, unless we hear otherwise.

We are truly thankful to our Heavenly Father who has opened His storehouse and to those whom He has used to take care of the need.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

We, the Englewood Congregation, plan to have our Fall Lovefeast October 27, 1979. Services will begin at 10 A.M., Saturday. Lovefeast will be in the evening.

We welcome all who can come and share our fellowship together with us.

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

NEWBERG, OREGON

We here at Newberg now have a fixed Lovefeast date for the first Saturday in November. This year it will fall on November 3.

Sister Elsie Harlacher, Cor.

McCLAVE, COLORADO

Come and dine, at the feast of Spiritual food, from God's Word, with the McClave Congregation, October 22 through October 28, 1979.

Elder Hayes Reed of Modesto, California, the Lord willing, will be with us at this time. Our Lovefeast will be Saturday evening, October 27.

Sister Aurelia Wertz, Cor.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS
FOR NOVEMBER**

Nov. 4 — "Hear, and Your Soul Shall Live." Isaiah 55:1-13 (Isaiah 56:1-12)

Nov. 11 — "Delight Thyself in the Lord." Isaiah 58:1-14 (Isaiah 57:1-21)

Nov. 18 — THANKSGIVING - II Chron. 5:1-14.

Nov. 25 — "The People Shall Be Righteous." Isaiah 60:1-22. (Isaiah 59:1-21)

QUESTIONS:

- (1) What kind of water is the prophet talking about in Isaiah 55:1? (John 4:14)
- (2) How can we receive the blessing of the Lord? (Isaiah 58:10-11)
- (3) Why did the glory of the Lord fill the house of God that Solomon had built? (II Chron. 5:13)
- (4) What will happen to a nation or a kingdom that will not serve God? (Isaiah 60:12)

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR NOVEMBER, 1979

Memory Verse: Psa. 106:43

Many times did he deliver them;
but they provoked him with their
counsel, and were brought low
for their iniquity.

Thur. 1 - Psa. 97:1-12

Fri. 2 - Psa. 106:1-23

Sat. 3 - Psa. 106:24-48

Memory Verse: Psa. 116:8

For thou hast delivered my soul
from death, mine eyes from tears,
and my feet from falling.

Sun. 4 - Psa. 107:1-20

Mon. 5 - Psa. 107:21-43

Tues. 6 - Psa. 108:1-13

Wed. 7 - Psa. 109:1-31

Thur. 8 - Psa. 116:1-19

Fri. 9 - Psa. 119:129-144

Sat. 10 - Psa. 119:145-160

Memory Verse: Psa. 120:2

Deliver my soul, O Lord, from
lying lips, and from a deceitful
tongue.

Sun. 11 - Psa. 119:161-176

Mon. 12 - Psa. 120:1-7

Tues. 13 - Psa. 140:1-13

Wed. 14 - Psa. 142:1-7

Thur. 15 - Psa. 143:1-12

Fri. 16 - Psa. 144:1-15

Sat. 17 - Prov. 2:1-22

Memory Verse: Prov. 11:4

Riches profit not in the day of
wrath: but righteousness de-
livereth from death.

Sun. 18 - Prov. 4:1-27

Mon. 19 - Prov. 6:1-19

Tues. 20 - Prov. 6:20-35

Wed. 21 - Prov. 10:1-32

Thur. 22 - Psa. 67:1-7

Fri. 23 - Prov. 11:1-31

Sat. 24 - Prov. 12:1-28

Memory Verse: Prov. 11:6

The righteousness of the upright
shall deliver them: but trans-
gressors shall be taken in their
own naughtiness.

Sun. 25 - Prov. 14:1-19

Mon. 26 - Prov. 14:20-35

Tues. 27 - Prov. 19:1-29

Wed. 28 - Prov. 23:1-16

Thur. 29 - Prov. 23:17-35

Fri. 30 - Prov. 24:1-18

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVII

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NO. 21

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

A PSALM OF LIFE

Tell me not, in mournful numbers,
"Life is but an empty dream!"
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.

Life is real! Life is earnest!
And the grave is not its goal;
"Dust thou art, to dust returnest,"
Was not spoken to the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way;
But to act, that each tomorrow
Finds us farther than to-day.

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave.

— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
Selected by Sister Margaret Myers

HOW WELL DO YOU RATE?

There are many devices used to measure. A ruler measures distance. The scales measure weight. A sphygmometer measures blood pressure. A thermometer measures temperature. These are just a few of the many devices used to measure various functions. When a reading is made, it serves as a comparison. Either the temperature is high or low. The blood pressure may reveal the state of the body's health.

If one of these devices show a function that varies too greatly from the norm, it may cause alarm, for a sickness is present or a breakdown may be at hand. If a measure is found to be abnormal, steps should be taken to improve the condition. Whether it is our bodies, our automobiles or other machinery, it is well that we pay attention to these various measurements so we can know their condition and be able to begin improvements if needed. If these measurements are ignored too long or they are too abnormal, it may be impossible to correct the condition.

Not only are measurements needed in our temporal bodies and mechanical devices, but we need to be aware of the condition of our Spiritual lives. We need to measure our Spiritual growth or the lack of such growth. If there is no growth, then a Spiritual sickness has set in. If the measurements are negative then action needs to be taken to prevent further decline and to bring about improvement.

To successfully measure these Spiritual measurements a standard needs to be found that will accurately reflect what the true condition is. The device for such a measurement is the Bible.

THE BIBLE MONITOR

NOVEMBER 1, 1979

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It is perfectly true in every facet and word; it is God's standard. The words found upon its pages are words of Spiritual life for they tell what is necessary and what must be removed. Because the Bible is inspired by God through the Holy Spirit, its words are powerful. They have greater force than men's pronouncements. Not only are its words profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness but they can reveal the thoughts and intents of the heart and mind. Since God created man, He can discern through His Word his thoughts and intentions. Man's way is open and naked before God's all-knowing and all-seeing eye.

One of the duties of the Christian is to examine himself. If he does not examine himself he will not know what his true condition is. If he does examine himself but fails to make the needed improvements, he has done so in vain. This examination needs to be done often. It can not be relegated to the minutes preceding the Lovefeast service. These minutes are important and should not be ignored because of the sacredness of communion with the Brethren and with God. But there needs to be continual examination to be sure that all is well within throughout the year. There are dire consequences pronounced upon those who fail to avail themselves of the opportunity to truthfully look into their outward appearance and actions and their inward thoughts and intentions. These consequences may be physical and surely will be Spiritual.

God's standard for the conduct of our lives must be adhered to or a price must be paid. To avoid paying the price we must constantly be sure we are striving to live up to the delivered standard. Self-examination is a continual need in each of our lives.

One of the areas of our lives that needs constant evaluation is our relationship with others. It is necessary to be with others for it is impossible and unwise to live as a hermit. While with others we are subject to many strains in our relationship. Because people are different they do not agree on all things nor do they do all things the same. So a special grace is needed to make relationships as kind and loving as possible. The Bible's standard is to "live peaceably with all men." The Bible also sets the standard of loving even one's enemies as well as friends. The way of the world is to seek revenge but the Christian can not travel that route and the strait and narrow way at the same time. God alone has the power of revenge. Our instructions are: "Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink; for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head." Rom. 12:20. If we allow ourselves to act the same as those of the world, they have overcome us. For then we are living on their low level instead of us inspiring them to live on a higher level. So when measuring our lives we must be careful what level we are living on.

When you measure yourself by the Word of God, how do you rate? Are you living a Spiritual life? Are you living on a higher level than the world around you?

BESIDE THE STILL WATERS

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters." Psa. 23:1-2. When the Lord becomes your shepherd, He also becomes your peace-giver. He will lead you beside the still waters — where it is peaceful and quiet — if you will follow Him. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27. The peace of Christ is His gift to us, effective in all circumstances.

Is your life unsettled and stormy? It need not be so. Jesus has promised peace, so claim it. Whatever the reason your life is in an uproar, ask the Lord to give you His peace. Ask Him to help you rest in His care. When your sins are forgiven, you have peace in your heart about your soul, but you also need peace of mind. You cannot cope with the problems of life if your mind is continually in an uproar. Jesus wants you to have His peace so you can be at your best in His service, and so you can also have a calming influence in the lives of others.

You already know the Lord is able to keep you in any circumstance, anywhere. To trust Him for this and to rest in His care is another matter. Paul said, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19. His God is our God. Whether it is peace or something else we need, He will supply it all according to His riches. There is no time at which our need can exceed what God is able to supply. There is no reason why we can't have complete peace — except when we have our eyes on the problem and do not ask for His peace.

"And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?" Luke 12:25-26. There are so many things we can't do and so many situations over which we have no control. It doesn't make sense to worry about those things, instead we should seek the Lord's help. "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6. We need not be anxious if we take our needs to Him.

Webster's Dictionary says peace is, "in a general sense, a state of quiet or tranquillity; freedom from disturbance or agitation." Everyone can have a certain amount of peace, but true peace, the kind which God alone can give, comes to us only when we are obedient to Him. "O that thou hadst hearkened to my command-

ments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea." Isa. 48:18. God said there is no peace for the wicked (Isa. 48:22).

It is also needful that we trust the Lord. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." Isa. 26:3. A heart that does not trust the Lord to keep His Word and to care for His own as He has promised can't have perfect peace. Doubt destroys peace. Doubt keeps us away from the still waters. Doubt says, "Lord, I don't believe You are able to handle this situation." When the Lord gives you assurance of His care and love, don't let doubt creep in, or all you will have is misery in its fulness. Trust brings peace. Trust in the Lord, that is.

"Casting all your cares upon him; for he careth for you." I Pet. 5:7. The peace that we have is dependent on God's care of us, not on our circumstances. It is His faithfulness in supplying our needs which makes peace of mind possible. Job said, "When he giveth quietness, who then can make trouble?" No one can take your peace of mind away from you — unless you permit it. When God gives it, He intends for you to keep it for always, in every circumstance.

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:7. Peace of heart, peace of mind — both are available through Christ. Whatever your problem, whatever your need, you can be at peace. That is why it passes all understanding. Just as the artist painted a picture of peace as a nesting dove under a protected cliff, with a storm raging all around, you can be at peace when troubles rage all around. God's peace keeps us in spite of our trying circumstances.

Peace and stability go together, just as peace and trust go together. Stability comes when we have learned to rest in God's care. God will "after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." I Pet. 5:10b. You will not have the stability that you should have until you have walked with the Lord and learned more of His ways. Suffering is a part of this learning, but God will strengthen and settle you. He will give you the stability that you should have — a part of your perfection in Christ.

People are attracted by peace and repelled by turmoil, just as sheep will go to quiet waters instead of to a rushing stream. People want something stable to hold on to. Does your life have that kind of peace and stability? You can't be much help to others if you are in a turmoil, too. "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts." Col. 3:15a. When peace rules, heartaches cannot. Let Jesus lead you "beside the still waters", the waters of His peace.

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE DREAM

One night as I lay sleeping, I dreamed of my dear wife who had passed to her Heavenly Home a few, short years ago. She and I had started on a trip. We were traveling now on the way home. We had been traveling for many days. The road on which we had come stretched far back into the distance. We only had a horse and buggy, so we did not travel very fast. As we were traveling, when we had come to a certain point, she stepped out and left me alone, disappearing at once.

Now she was gone from my view. I could not see her anymore. I was left alone. This thing I could not understand. I wondered what this meant and why she had left me. I traveled very slowly, looking and watching everywhere for her. I was hoping and praying we would meet again on the way. I thought she would be somewhere along the way so I probably would overtake her soon. This road we were on seemed to be a straight and narrow way. I thought perhaps she was with others who were traveling. If so, I thought I would meet them and her and we could be together again, before we reached home. Somehow I had a deep feeling about her and I was greatly concerned about what had happened. I wondered why this separation? Why could we not have gone on together? Now I was so worried and I had to think, "What if I never meet her again?"

Now I arrived at a crossroad. My heart surely did ache. I was wondering which road I should take and which one had she taken. While I was trying to make up my mind, my faithful horse made the decision, he took the straight and narrow way straight ahead. So I let him lead me on. Soon we came to another crossroad. Here was located a fine and well constructed building which added to my interest and satisfaction on the way. Now my faithful horse wanted to turn, the road he wanted to travel was like the other one he had taken so I let him go ahead. It seemed to be strait and narrow but well constructed. I began to believe my faithful horse knew the way home. I felt sure she had taken this way.

I had just started on this way when I could see another building, just a short way ahead. It was very large and more substantial than the one we had just passed and a City was just ahead. I was much impressed by its substantial and permanent appearance. As my horse and I came to the City, I was wondering how anyone could be found in this large City. Did she go this way? Why could we not have traveled together? How will I again find her? I felt so very alone. I wondered where she might be. I asked the Lord to help me find her. Will we ever meet again? This was such a mystery, nothing seemed to fit together. Is it possible I will never meet her? This was almost more than I could bear.

At that very moment she appeared at the side of the buggy. I was so happy. I wanted everyone to see how happy I was. I offered a

prayer to the Dear Lord for returning my wonderful companion and for keeping each of us from harm and bringing us safely together again. My what a wonderful peace came over me, as we were entering the City together.

Then I awoke. Behold, it was only a D-R-E-A-M. Again I am all alone, all A-L-O-N-E.

Dear ones this was only a dream by a man of God, but I wanted to pass it on to you. Such souls do not mourn as those who have no hope. There is a City of splendor and glory that hath a foundation and whose maker and builder is God. It is eternal in the Heavens, the home of all the redeemed ones. Let us look up and not be cast down or become discouraged. This will be our Home if we are faithful. Let each of us fix our gaze upon it; it will become a source of strength and courage and will light our way. Again we are reminded that this is not our home. We are seeking that home not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens, where all the dear redeemed ones of all ages will be gathered around that great Throne. Many of our dear loved ones have passed from this house of clay and their spirits have gone home to be with the Lord, where there is fullness of joy. My precious Savior knows the way. Let Him guide and comfort us and He will take us safely over Jordan River. Then we won't have any more pain, sorrow or tears. All will be peace.

Then as a hireling, our assignment will be finished and all our day of work will be done and we will approach the gate that leads us home. That will be a wonderful time if we are here, when Christ comes in the air. It will be a wonderful meeting, to be caught up in the air with Him. Isn't this worth working for? How sad for those who have not made any preparations, those who don't care about our loving Savior. What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul? Sad, sad, it will be when there is no room in Heaven for him. There are many in this world just like this. All they think of is money. I hope this dream and this article will help some poor soul to find his way to that Promised Land.

Sister E. M. Alltus

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

PART 11

Christ was with the Father in the Creation of the world. John 1:1; Gen. 1:26. He was one with Him in providing for the Elect. Isa. 42:1, "Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my Spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles." This refers to Christ. Therefore, God's special servants, those having a saving faith, are made so by the faith of Christ, who is God's Elect. Titus 1:1, "Paul, a servant of

God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness." The Apostle was a builder in the Church and of the faith of Christ, hence we say the Church is Christ's Elect.

Our second argument of God's Elect: First, Israel was chosen of God, as a people, but they, afterward becoming a worldly kingdom or nation, forfeited their right to God's favor. Yet, God because of His promise to Abraham and to Israel his seed, will keep His promise through their seed Christ. He has renewed His promise to a remnant of Israel, whose eyes will be opened, and they will yet receive their inheritance in their promised land, for He considered them a holy nation. *Exod. 19:6.*

God's chose His people of old and gave promises to them in the Old Testament. *Exod. 19:5-6*, "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine." See, this promise was only given on the condition of obedience or keeping the covenant. We learn elsewhere that they broke the Everlasting Covenant. "And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel."

We shall learn farther on that they lost their fleshly kingdom and also their right as a nation to be spiritual kings and priests for a time to the Church. For Christ came unto them, His own, and His own received Him not. Their kingdom was then taken from them, *Matt. 21:42-43*. It was taken from Israel and given to the Gentiles.

God calling Israel unto Himself as His chosen Elect gave them assurance. *Deut. 14:2*, "For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God, and the Lord hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth." Yes, He chose them to be His peculiar people, but they lost that right, until they are grafted again into "their own olive tree."

The Church is not the peculiar people of God. *I Pet. 2:9-10*, "But ye (Church) are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." Hence, the Gentiles are made the Elect of God, through Christ, the Seed of Abraham.

Note where the word "elect" is used concerning Israel in the Old Testament.

Isa. 65:9, "And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains: and mine elect (all of Christ's chosen) shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there."

Isa. 65:22, "They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall

not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people (We believe, this is to be in the day when the tree is grown to its maturity), and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands." At this point we want to show that Israel was the roots of God's Tree. Chosen first to be His Elect, they did not develop the Tree fully. They will be grafted back into the Tree, which is figurative of their own Olive Tree. Paul uses the olive tree as a symbol. Read carefully Rom. 11:23-34.

There is one other reference in the Old Testament, used in connection with Jacob, (or Israel) pertaining to his name. Isa. 45:4, "For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect (meaning God's chosen), I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me."

We come now to our affirmative argument. God's people in Christ, which are the Church, are called the Elect. Also Christ will send His angels to call, or to gather them, after the "Great Tribulation," "From the uttermost part of the earth, to the uttermost part of heaven." Mark 13:27; Matt. 24:31.

However, we think that will be at Christ's Second Coming and the "remnant" of Israel, the 144,000, will then have been sealed in their foreheads and be included in the Election, at the time when Christ comes to Armageddon to redeem them. John, Peter and Paul, all, speak of the Church being the Elect, II John 1:13; I Pet. 1:2; Rom. 8:33; Col. 3:12. Paul says in Romans, "Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth."

Let us now note, two references in the New Testament, which refer to God's first chosen, Elect Israel, Luke 18:6-8; II Tim. 2:10. These Scriptures, as much as say, Israel could not have Eternal Glory in their blinded state, nor could they be counted among the Elect. While Israel as a nation are called God's chosen people, we think there will only be a remnant included in the Elect. Christ will come to Mount Sion and redeem them, "from the earth," from "among men," Rev. 14:1-6. Then their blinded eyes shall be opened.

Yet, God had exalted them and chosen them to be above all nations. Deut. 26:19, "And to make thee high above all nations which he hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honour; and that thou mayest be an holy people unto the Lord thy God, as he hath spoken."

Beloved Brethren and Sisters, no wonder the Apostle Paul warned the Church, not to honour themselves, not to "boast against the branches." Listen to what he says. Rom. 11:16-21, "For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches. And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; Boast

not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee."

To be continued
Brother William Root

HEART SERVICE

"Heart," as used in the Bible means mind, soul and spirit. It means the very center of one's emotions. Deut. 6:5, "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."

Psalms 111:1, "Praise ye the Lord, I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation." Begin the week with praise to the Lord. Show forth praise in going to Church and singing, making melody in your heart to the Lord. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so. Be happy Christians all through the week.

Philip preached to the Ethiopian eunuch. As they went on their way, he said to Philip, "See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Acts 8:36b-37. So right from the beginning it must be "with all thine heart." "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Rom. 10:10. As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.

Let us consider Daniel for a lesson. Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the King's meat. Dan. 1:8. His mind was made up. He said, "I will not!", and God blessed him. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego also said, "We will not bow down to the image." Their hearts were set on doing the right thing. Read Dan. 3.

We must have our wills under control. While Daniel was firm in his determination not to eat the king's meat, he was just as determined in his will to pray to God even after the king decreed the people were not to petition anyone but the king. "Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime." Dan. 6:10.

It is important that we, like Daniel, purpose in our hearts. In writing about giving, the Apostle Paul says, "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." II Cor. 9:7. "For if there

be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not." II Cor. 8:12.

If we give God heart service, the Fruits of the Spirit will be manifest in our lives. Read Galatians 6:22-23. Jesus told His disciples, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." John 15:7-8.

The rewards of heart service are in the here and now, as well as the hereafter. Jesus says, "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." John 15:11. "But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptable, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit. Which is in the sight of God of great price." I Pet. 3:4. "For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." I Sam. 16:7b.

Give your best to the Master
Give Him first place in your heart;
Give Him first place in your service;
Concecrate every part.
Give and to you shall be given,
God, His beloved Son gave.
Gratefully seeking to serve Him,
Give Him the best that you have.

Sister Edyth Kline

THE YOUNG CHRISTIAN

I cannot give it up,
The little world I know —
The innocent delights of youth
The things I cherish so!
Tis true I love my Lord,
And I love to do His will;
But, Oh, I may enjoy the world
And be a Christian still.

I love the hour of prayer,
I love the hymns of praise
I love the blessed Word which tells
Of God's redeeming Grace.
But I am human still!
And while I dwell on earth,
God surely will not grudge the hours
I spend in harmless mirth!

These things belong to youth
And are its natural right —
My dress, my pastimes and my friends
The merry and the right.
My Father's heart is kind!
He will not count it ill
That my small corner of the world
Should please and hold me still!

And yet "outside the camp" —
Twas there my Saviour died!
It was the world that cast Him forth
And saw Him crucified.
Can I take part with those
Who nailed Him to the tree?
And where His name is never praised
Is there the place for me?

Nay, world I turn away
Tho thou seem fair and good.
That friendly outstretched hand of thine
Is stained with Jesus' blood.
If in thy least device
I stop to take a part.
All unaware, thine influence steals
God's presence from my heart.

I miss my Saviour's smile,
Whene'er I walk thy ways;
Thy laughter drowns the Spirit's voice,
And chokes the springs of praise.
Whene'er I turn aside
To join thee for an hour,
The face of Christ grows blurred and dim
And prayer has lost its power!

Farewell... henceforth my place
Is with the Lamb who died,
My sovereign will I love,
What can I want besides?
Thyself, blest Lord, art now
My free and loving choice.
In whom, though now I see Thee not,
Believing, I rejoice.

Shame on me that I sought
Another joy than this
Or dreamt a heart at rest with Thee
Or looked elsewhere for bliss.
These vain and worthless things

I put them all aside.
His goodness fills my longing soul
And I am satisfied.

Lord Jesus, let me dwell
"Outside the camp" with Thee
Since Thou art there, then there alone
Is peace and rest for me.
Thy dear reproach to bear
I'll count my highest gain,
Till Thou return, Rejected One
To take Thy power and reign.

Selected by Brother Lester M. Flora

THE WINDOW SILLS OF HEAVEN

Oh Father - as I looked out at
The coming of the dawn,
I pondered in my heart
Just where are thy window sills
Upon which I lean my arm.

I saw the early morning star,
As it southward and lower went
The moon so bright in the dark, still night
Altho it has been touched by man
I know it was placed there
For a light, the earth to span.

I sat quite still and pondered on —
Soon came the first lights of the dawn.
Such a wonderous and beauteous sight
Whence doth go the dark of night.

Morning now was right at hand
As I looked upon the earth
Within my heart was fresh, new birth
I gave thanks to God for His Creation so grand.

I ask forgiveness for all my wrong.
I ask this day to be made strong.
I want to serve Him - do His will
It makes no difference how small the task.

His peace to me was freely given
And all at once I knew
I was - leaning on the
Window sills of Heaven.

Father hold my hand thru-out the day

Guide my feet in wisdom's way.
Guard my tongue in all I say
For all thy children I will this day pray.

Thank you Father up above
For all your mercy - all your love.

Amen.

— Ruth Spotts
Brethren Home
750 Chestnut St.
Greenville, Ohio 45331

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

WHERE IS YOUR CANDLE?

Mark 4:21-25; Luke 8:16-18

Do you use candles for light at night? We all know what candles are, but we don't use them for light unless we have to. Nearly everyone has electric lights but sometimes there is a storm and the electricity goes off, then we light a candle. A candle doesn't give much light compared to an electric light but when the room is dark a candle can be very important. With just the light of one candle we can see but where there is no light we cannot see. If we are not very careful, we will stumble and fall.

When Jesus was here, candles had not been invented. Even if they had been, they would not have been very practical in that hot climate. In Jesus' time people used lamps made by placing a wick in a bowl of olive oil. The bowl had a spout for the wick on one side and a handle to hold it by on the other. When the King James Bible was translated from Hebrew and Greek into English, the people in England used candles instead of lamps, so they translated the original word, "candle." It really doesn't make any difference since a lamp or a candle gives light and that is what Jesus is talking about.

Jesus said, "No man, when he has lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or puts it under a bed; but puts it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light. For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither anything hid, that shall not be made known." "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

We can't hide anything from God, neither should we be ashamed of being a Christian. We ought to tell others how wonderful Jesus is and how much He has done for us. By doing this we are letting our light shine — we are lighting our candles so others may see the

light. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." If we are followers of Jesus we are the light of the world and we can be like a city on a hill that cannot be hid.

Where is your candle? Are you trying to hide your life from Jesus? or are you a bright and shining light so others can see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven?

Brother Rudy Cover

MARRIAGE

EBERLY - MALLOW

Sister Leah Eberly, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Amos Eberly, of Lititz, Pennsylvania and Brother David Mallow, son of Bro. and Sis. Eldon Mallow of Greencastle, Pennsylvania were united in marriage July 7, 1979 at the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Eldon Mallow after a sermon by Elder Allen Eberly. Elder Frank Shaffer conducted the opening devotions. The couple is residing at 901 Opal Street, Ephrata, Pennsylvania 17522.

NEWS ITEMS

WEST FULTON, OHIO

The Lord willing, our Harvest Meeting at West Fulton will be November 18. There will be afternoon services also. Bro. Dennis St. John and Bro. Robert Carpenter are to be our speakers.

You are welcome to attend these services.

Sister Leola Beck, Cor.

NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to thank everyone who remembered me in prayer, and by the many cards and visits during my stay in the hospital and while convalescing at home. May the Lord bless each of you.

Brother Howard Myers



BE CAREFUL

How you spend your time is more important than how you spend your money. Money mistakes can be corrected, but time is lost forever.

— David B. Norris

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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 22

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

GOD'S WITH US

He's with us when we are happy
He's with us when we are sad.
God's with us all day long
So come on — let's all be glad.

He's with us through the Valley
And on the mountain too,
So just draw nigh to Him
And He'll be near to you.

Sometimes we feel so lonely
Sometimes we feel so blue.
Come on — let's not forget,
God's with us Me and You.

I'm glad we have a God
That knows our every need,
He's with us day and night
God is with us — yes indeed.

Psalms 48:14

For this God is our God forever and ever;
He will be our guide even unto death.

By Ida Beard

Selected by Sis. Ruthanna Sauerwein

THANKSGIVING

As Thanksgiving approaches, our minds are drawn toward thoughts concerning the Pilgrims. One of the things we can be thankful for is the heritage of our nation. We can look back to this small band who offered thanks to God who had delivered them not only safely over the ocean but through a terrible winter and a dry summer. God had answered their earnest petitions so they faithfully offered thanks. Although it would be unlikely that any who read this are descended from these brave pioneers, still we speak of them as our Pilgrim Fathers. As good fathers, they have left us a noble example.

This small band came to this wild, forbidding land for a noble reason. Unlike the earlier adventurers who had come to seek gold and empires, they came to establish homes and have freedom to worship God. They had been unable to worship God freely in their native England. They lived for a few years in Holland but saw the allurements of that land begin to draw away their children. So they determined to risk all and to venture across the Atlantic, where they would not be under the direct pressure of the oppressive English Church — State government.

It was a dangerous and costly journey. They did not arrive at their predetermined destination in Virginia but landed in the cold climate of Cape Cod. They had sickness and starvation to contend with that first winter when their numbers were heavily decimated. The next summer was not much friendlier, when drought hampered the growth of their crops. A time of fasting and prayer prevailed, when needed rains were sent from Above. They were not

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a forgetful people. After the harvest a day of Thanksgiving was proclaimed and kept. They had much to be thankful for.

Although there may be much myth surrounding the story of the Pilgrims, it should remind us that God is on the Throne and is able to provide for the earthly needs of those who seek to worship Him. It should remind us that we must not only petition Him to fulfill our needs but we must also thank Him. He is pleased that we come to Him but He also desires our thanks and praise.

The story of the Pilgrims is an honorable part of our nation's history. It is much revered at this time of the year but we wonder if its true lesson ever is received by most people. There is much lip-service paid to the ideals of the Pilgrims by politicians, businessmen, educators and other leaders but there seems to be little reliance upon the God they served. The tenor of American life today is more in imitation of the adventurers who came before the settlement of the New World by home-seeking people like the Pilgrims. Their desire is for quick wealth and ease of living.

American history is full of reliance upon the worship of God. Many came to this land to escape not only the lack of economic advantages in the Old World but also to find religious freedom. Many groups came from the continent as well as England to find that freedom which was unavailable where the state-churches ruled. William Penn established his colony not only for the oppressed Quakers of England but for other oppressed people. Many of our oppressed German forefathers left their fatherland to brave the tedious and dangerous voyage across the Atlantic. They had been harrassed throughout Germany. But here they could find a home. Here they could worship God according to their understanding of His Word.

Today we can be thankful there is a religious heritage in our country. Although it is ignored and even condemned and slighted, it does serve as a reminder that this land was not built upon the strength of men's arms, fleshly or military. We can be thankful for ancestors who braved the wearisome and dangerous journey that they might remain faithful to His Teachings rather than remain secure in their former homes. We can be thankful that our government has continued to provide freedom for our worship. Although this privilege may be in peril from various seemingly good investigations and civil rights laws, it is still ours to enjoy. It will more quickly be taken from us if we fail to avail ourselves of the privilege. We must remember that this is a privilege that is enjoyed in few parts of the world today. We must never consider Christianity and our form of government to be synonymous. Although the freedom granted by our government has been welcome and helpful, that does not mean that Christianity can not exist under other forms

of government. In fact, Christianity has existed under oppression most of its nearly two thousand years of existence.

Above all people we should be thankful. Not only do we have a country with a heritage honoring God. Not only do we live in a prosperous and free land. We should be most thankful on Thanksgiving and every day that God is mindful not only of our temporal needs but our Spiritual needs also. We are thankful for His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

A TRIP

It was my privilege to make a trip through the New England States. As we traveled I was made to think how much our life journey is like a trip into a strange country.

The first day started out sunshiny. The brilliant colors of the autumn leaves were reflected on all sides. All at once we ran into rain and snow. What a change! Just as sudden can Jesus appear again whether we are ready or not. Matt. 24:44.

After one day of driving in rain and snow we appreciated the sunshine the next day much more. Just so trials sent by God only make us appreciate His blessings even more.

As we covered the miles we were made to realize how much greater the beauties and wonders of God were than anything man could produce. Do we really take time to discover the wonders of God all around us? The tiniest seed can produce a beautiful plant and even a tree just as God gave the command in Gen. 1:12. Most trees shed their leaves in the fall only to reproduce them in the spring just as God has planned. Man could not replace even one tiny leaf. What a wonderful God that controls this great universe.

Some years ago I knew a lady who made the remark each Sunday morning as she saw trees on the way to Church. "Only God can make a tree." How true her remark but man is being reckless with what he cannot replace.

As we viewed replicas of the Mayflower and the first houses the Pilgrims lived in, we were made to wonder if we Christians today would sacrifice as much and endure as many hardships as they did in order to worship God as he has commanded. The United States has progressed a long ways from the simple life of the Pilgrims but have we progressed as far in serving God? The further I travel along life's road the more I am made to realize Satan is working harder and harder to pull the plain Churches away from God's commands before Christ returns.

As we traveled we even found the people had not forgotten God in naming their towns. One road sign said "The Lord's Plain" another town was "The Promised Land." The Pilgrims when they

landed at Plymouth Rock felt much as the children of Israel did upon reaching the land of Canaan. It was the Promised Land.

May the Bible be our DAILY road map then we will not lose our way. We can be sure of our road if we follow God's Word and make no detours.

Sister Ruth Drake
Route 3, Box 312
Manheim, Pa. 17545

T-H-A-N-K-S-G-I-V-I-N-G

"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." 1 Thess. 5:18.

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Eph. 5:20.

These verses do not leave any room for an unthankful spirit, do they? Yet to thank God for all things, in every thing, sounds like an impossible task. What is there to be THAT thankful for, that we can always be thankful, even when troubles and heartaches are overwhelming? The gift of salvation through Christ is the basis for all true thanksgiving, so using the letters of the word "thanksgiving" as a guide, let's think about the One who has given us this gift.

T is for teacher. In John 3:2, Nicodemus said, "Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God." Many people recognize Christ now as a teacher and a good man, but it is important to know that He is far more than that. Christ came from God, He is God, and He taught the ways of God to those who would hear. If you take away His divinity, His life would be meaningless, His death only a defeat, but Christ is divine and He sacrificed His life for us. This is the first thing we should be thankful for.

H is for our High Priest and our hope. "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities." Heb. 4:15a. Christ did not stop with atoning for our sins. He understands our problems and needs. He has compassion for us when He has every right to condemn us, instead. Christ, as our High Priest, has gone farther than any human being ever could in interceding for us and has given us eternal hope. "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil." Heb. 6:19. Isn't that something to be thankful for?

A is for our Advocate — one to plead our case — and the Author and finisher of our faith. 1 John 2:1b says, "And if any many sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." It is far better that we never sin, but when we do, Christ will intercede for us. No one else is qualified to do this for us. No one but Christ

can give us faith. "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." Heb. 12:2a. Jesus gives us faith and helps us grow in it; He intercedes for us when needed. Are you thankful for Him — always?

N is for the Nazarene. Being a Nazarene, a person from Nazareth, may not be especially important. But it is important to notice that Jesus followed through on His pattern of lowly living. Jesus could have had a mansion here on earth, but He made His home in Nazareth and worked in a carpenter's shop, hardly a royal position. Nathanael asked, "Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?" John 1:46. The reply "Come and see" invites you also to find out just who "Jesus of Nazareth" really is. Many Jews have the name "Jesus" or a form of it, and the phrase "Jesus of Nazareth" is still used to indicate which Jesus they mean. That phrase identifies the Son of God; do you know Him?

K is for King, and Jesus truly is our King. He has the right to grant us the portion God has prepared for us (see Matt. 25:34).

S is for Shepherd and Jesus is that, too. "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." John 10:11. He gave all that He had to give so we could be saved. Is it any wonder that Paul said, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." II Cor. 9:15.

G is for gift and Jesus is God's love-gift to us. Are you becoming convinced that we do have reasons to be thankful?

I is for Immanuel as in Isa. 7:14 or Emmanuel as in Matt. 1:23. "And they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Jesus was physically present on this earth for awhile, but now He is present in our hearts by His Spirit. Jesus will teach us, He will lead us, He will support and comfort us just as He did the disciples who walked and talked with Him in Judea. What a blessed reason to be thankful even when life is utter chaos around us!

V is for Vine, our source of strength and life. Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman." John 15:1. He tells us how important it is that we abide in Him, the vine, and what the result is when we do. We will bear much fruit (15:5), we will have our prayer privileges increased (15:7), and we will also have much joy (15:11). Joy and thanksgiving go together; you will have both when you abide in the Vine.

The remaining letters, "I", "N", "G", have already been covered, but perhaps you can find other scriptures which say what Christ means to you. All that He has done for us makes it possible for us to have a very special relationship to God. It is much to be thankful for to know that we have been adopted and are heirs of God.

Without Christ, none of this would be possible. Do you agree that we have much to be thankful for in all sorts of circumstances — because we have Christ?

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THANKFUL - EVEN THOUGH

Even though I clutch my blanket and growl when the alarm rings every morning, thank you Lord, that I can hear; there are many who are deaf.

Even though I keep my eyes closed against the morning light as long as possible, thank you Lord, that I can see; there are many who are blind.

Even though I huddle in my bed and put off getting up, thank you Lord, for strength to rise; there are many who are bedfast.

Even though the first hour of my day is hectic (socks are lost, the toast is burned, and my temper is short), thank you, Lord, for my family; there are so many who are lonesome.

Even though our breakfast table never looks like those in the ladies' magazines, and the menu is unbalanced, thank you, Lord, for the food that we have; for there are many who are hungry.

Even though my job is sometimes monotonous, thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to work; there are many who are out of work.

Even though I grumble from day to day and wish my circumstances were a little better, thank you, Lord, for the gift of life.

Selected by
Sister Carolyn M. Mellott

HOLY SPIRIT

This article was taken from notes I made in class and the book we used in that course while I was at Bethany Bible School in 1920.

At one of Christ's meetings with His disciples after His resurrection, it is said that Christ breathed on them and saith unto them, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." God breathed into each of us the natural life, but Christ breathed on us the Spiritual life. We must be born again and become a new creature. As we are converted after we are convicted and have repented of our sins, we are to go as Jesus commanded us down into the water and be born again, having our sins washed away, then we receive the Holy Spirit and He becomes a part of us.

Paul speaks of us as new creatures in Christ Jesus. The light of Jesus has come into our lives. When Paul was converted, a great

light appeared brighter than his sin. If each of us have this great light within us we will be better people and the world will be a better place to live in. After the prodigal son received that light he had something to live for. It gave him strength for the duties that laid ahead. God gave us a great light. It shines through the day by the sun and by night through the moon. I wonder what this world would be like, if we had no light. Our homes would be very dark if there never was any light. So our lives become very dark unless we have the light of the blessed Son of God in our hearts.

When a person wants to receive that Spiritual light, he must be born of the water and Spirit through faith and prayer. There are two operations in man's Spiritual birth. Baptism represents His cleansing and pardon of past sins, so he through faith in prayer and the laying on of hands will receive the Holy Spirit. Now he has become a child of God. We can take the little acorn. If it did not have that life germ inside, it never would become an oak. By having that life germ of an oak within, there can come forth an oak. So we see if we are to come up on that great day with new bodies fashioned like unto Christ's glorious body, we must have within us the molding factor of the Holy Spirit.

We then find that we are endowed with divine and supernatural strength. Gideon was one who had that strength. God dispatched His angel to Gideon with this message, "Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites." Gideon obeyed the call. Idolatry was destroyed in his father's house and he did those things that were necessary.

With the Holy Spirit one needs wisdom. Joshua, Moses' successor, felt the loss of the nation's leader and the great responsibility that fell on his shoulders. But the secret of his success is revealed in these words, "He was full of the Holy Spirit," for Moses had laid his hands on him. We all remember that Saul was Israel's first king. He was a very meek man, but he lost the Spirit through disobedience. Does this apply to us today? If we do not let the Spirit lead us where will we be? In alot of trouble.

David was a fine man. I believe there are three things that gave David favor with God and man, his noble Spirit, his meekness and his devoted, loyal life. Do you know of any man more sorely tried than David? It seemed the Spirit had such a hold on him that he was always led to make the wrong things right. I believe we can truly say he was "a man after God's own heart."

Elisha was anointed as Elijah's successor. He did not ask for wealth nor honor, all he wanted was a double portion of the Spirit. His prayer was surely answered. How many of us and our ministers ask for a double portion of the Holy Spirit to come upon us? If we

did, this would be a better world to be living in. Many of the Old Testament leaders were endowed with His Spirit — Abraham, Jacob and many more.

In the New Testament we are all baptized into one body and we are led by one Spirit, which is the Holy Spirit. Now we have one Spiritual Father, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In the early Church there was a rapid growth, for on that day there were added to the Church three thousand souls. It kept on growing and reached over five thousand before many days had passed. We know under the power of the Holy Spirit it did continue to grow. We need more of the Holy Spirit in our Churches today. The more we have of the Holy Spirit the more we will grow and more souls will be born into the kingdom. Let us continue to pray for lost souls; time will soon be over and so many will perish.

Jesus told His disciples it was expedient that He go away, then this Comforter would come which is the Holy Spirit. He would reprove this old world of sin. He would be a comfort to the Saints and God's name would be glorified. This would be a better place for them to live and to carry on the work they were sent to do. But it seemed they could not grasp why He had to leave them. It was necessary because while He was here in the flesh He could only be with them but if He sent the Comforter after He was gone He could be with them wherever they went. He would abide with them at all times.

He not only told them He would send the Holy Spirit but told them what He would do. Let us pray daily that with the help of His Spirit, we can help gather more souls for Him. Some people today believe that as Christ cleansed the Temple, so it will be with the Church when Christ comes again. So many are going back into the world. It is very sad to see our loved ones go back into the sinful world. We, as His children, must keep on earnestly praying for them. We are told the prayers of the righteous availeth much. The hand of mercy is still available but just how long, God alone knows. If we wait too long it will be very sad for us. Now is the time; the door is open. If you are out of the ark of safety and you read this, will you stop and think, what will happen to you if you don't do as the Lord has asked you? Let me plead with you. Don't put it off for you may never have another chance. You have nothing to lose but everything to gain. Let us take Him as our Shepherd and He will guide us through this life and give us a home in Heaven.

To be continued
Sister E. M. Alltus

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE PEARL WITHOUT PRICE

Matthew 13:45-46

Have you ever seen a large pearl? Pearls are usually very small but once in awhile there is a great big one. Pearls are many different colors. Most are found in oysters and are started by a grain of sand that has accidentally lodged between the shell and the oyster. The oyster has the ability to coat the little grain of sand with a substance called "mother of pearl." As the years go by, the pearl keeps getting larger but it takes many years for an oyster to make a real large pearl. Pearls are very costly and an extra large pearl of a rare color and luster is almost priceless.

One time Jesus gave an illustration about the Kingdom of Heaven. He said it was like a pearl merchant hunting valuable pearls. This merchant knew all about pearls. That was his business. He bought and sold pearls. I suppose he had pearls by the hundreds. One day while shopping for pearls he found one that was larger and more beautiful than any he had ever seen. He looked it over carefully and it was perfect. He wanted that pearl above anything but the price was very high. The man who was selling it knew about pearls too. Jesus said it was a pearl of great price. The merchant didn't have enough money to buy it but he was determined to get that pearl. Do you know what he did? He sold all that he had and bought it. I suppose it means that he not only sold all the pearls that he had but also his house, his business or any other property he may have owned. Why do you suppose he was willing to pay so much? It was because he knew that he had never seen another pearl so large, perfect or so beautiful. A pearl like that was priceless. He was sure he would never have another opportunity like it. It was a pearl of great price!

Jesus said the Kingdom of Heaven is like this man seeking goodly pearls. Jesus is the King of the Kingdom. Have you found Jesus? He's worth everything that you have in this life. Jesus promises to give you eternal life — that means after this life you will never die or get sick or be unhappy. We cannot begin to pay for Heaven but Jesus is willing to give it to us if we will give our life to Him. It's the best bargain you'll ever find. Jesus is that Pearl of Great Price!

Brother Rudy Cover

ETERNITY

O, ye young, ye gay, ye proud
You must die and wear a shroud
Time will rob you of your bloom
Death will drag you to the tomb.

Chorus:

Then you'll cry and want to be
Happy in Eternity
Eternity, Eternity
Happy in Eternity

You will go to Heaven or Hell
One you must and there to dwell
Christ will come and quickly too
I must meet him so must you.

The white throne will soon appear
All the world must then draw near
Sinners will be driven down
Saints will wear a starry crown.

Sister Amy Kegerreis

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from November 1, 1979 Issue

God's divine purpose in his elect is inscrutable. Rom. 9:21-28, "Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? What if God willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction?" (God has been merciful to Israel) "And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory. (Now, note the universal call to the Gentiles.) Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?"

All Gentiles now have power to become "the Sons of God" and also the Jews can have the same power through the Church Dispensation (the sixth), if they would only accept Christ and believe in Him.

Going on with the reading in Romans 9, "As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved. And it shall to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God. Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of

Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved." We think this will be at Christ's Coming. "For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth."

At this point please notice Rom. 10:1-4, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth."

In Conclusion, before leaving this Topic of God's Elect, we note the solicitation of the Apostle Paul for his own people Israel. Rom. 11:1-5, "I say then, Hath God cast away His people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture sayeth of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. Even so then at this present time (the time of Paul's writing inspired by the Holy Spirit) also there is a remnant (those who accepted Christ when He came) according to the election of grace." "What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election (the Church) hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded." Rom. 11:7.

Paul then proceeds to teach us that it is through their fall, that the Gentiles are saved, according to God's eternal purpose. Rom. 11:28, "As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes (meaning Abraham, Isaac and Jacob)."

A remnant will be grafted into God's election again, the election of grace. I Thess. 1:4, "Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God." II Pet. 1:10, "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall." Sinner friend, Jew or Gentile, make diligence that you accept Christ as your personal Saviour, love, trust and obey Him, that your election may be sure.

We have now finished our topic of Israel as God's chosen Elect, of the Fifth Dispensation of man on the earth, the Dispensation of Law and Works. In our next article, we want to notice Israel's clammering after and God's allowing them to become a world-kingdom having a fleshly King.

In conclusion, it is hard for this writer to thoroughly discuss

these deep Bible questions and at the same time make our articles as interesting and practical for the day in which we live, as we would like. God has only given me a very limited knowledge. We realize that perhaps the readers of the Monitor would be more interested in reading that which would require less research and study, something more emotional and which would require less activity of the mind. Nevertheless, we pray that God may bless our efforts and all of His children be blessed.

Brother William Root

GIVING THANKS ALWAYS

Perhaps some of the experiences that we have in these days of peril will cause us to view matters in a different way than what we have been accustomed to. This may be for our good and to the glory of God if we meet the issue as we should as Christian people.

With the approach of another Thanksgiving day it might be well for us to compare the conditions in the world under which we are now living, and the attitude we take toward them, with conditions of former years and our attitude then.

The terrible war that is raging among the nations is a calamity that is threatening to destroy everything that we have held dear. Our nation, our great cities, our contented communities, our churches, our homes, our liberties. This is true of all nations. A world wide crisis is upon us. Under such conditions do we feel like giving thanks?

When we are prospering and everything is favorable with us it is only natural that we would, to some extent at least, feel grateful for what we are enjoying. But when adversity, calamity and distress come upon us can we be thankful under these conditions? Such an experience is a test of our Christianity.

The gratitude of true Christian people expressed in the giving of thanks unto God and singing songs of praise and adoration unto His name, is not always evidence under pleasant and comfortable circumstances. We have some examples of this in the inspired writings. In Acts 5 we have a record of some of the experiences of the early apostles in the preaching of the gospel of Christ. Their message so stirred their hearers that it brought severe physical punishment upon them. They were beaten and commanded to not speak in the name of Jesus. Under these conditions the apostles "departed from the council rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name." This was not pleasant experience but it brought joy and gladness to their hearts and they were grateful for the experience because it was an effective witness and testimony for Christ their Lord.

Again, in Acts 16 we have the account of an experience that Paul and Silas had because of their ministration of the gospel. Their clothes were torn off, they were beaten with many stripes, and cast into prison where they were made fast in the stocks. As a result of this they no doubt suffered severely and evidently could not sleep for pain. Under these conditions it is remarkable to note that at midnight they "prayed and sang praises unto God."

This experience merited the intervention of divine power and a great earthquake opened the prison and loosed the bands of the prisoners. This event resulted in the saving of the keeper of the prison and his household. Having met these issues in the fear of God and with submission to His will, although bringing physical suffering upon them, they were experiences worthy of thanksgiving and praise as the apostles viewed them. This should be a lesson to us should coming days be dark for us.

In times of war and unrestrained licentiousness and debauchery, Christian people are often subjected to the most cruel and inhuman treatment because of their testimony for Christ and His gospel of peace. Should the present war continue long we who testify for Christ may have to suffer severely if we are true to Him. But if our suffering can bring to our fellowmen a more effective and convincing testimony for Christ and result in the salvation of souls, should it not be a matter of rejoicing on our part?

In the matter of giving thanks to God, one of the sacred writers puts it this way, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Eph. 5:19-20. This is what Paul and Silas did. Do we have the same kind of Christianity they had? If we commit our all to the Lord and are faithful in His service, we need not fear any experiences that we may meet, for His grace is sufficient for all. Let us give thanks always to the Lord, for He careth for us.

Selected from November 15,
1942 Issue of the Bible Monitor



A GENTLE WORD

One gentle word that we may speak
Or one kind, loving deed,
May, though a trifle, poor and weak
Prove like a tiny seed:
And who can tell what good may spring
From such a very little thing?

Author unknown

NEWS ITEMS**WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND**

The Walnut Grove Congregation enjoyed a refreshing Revival Meeting with Bro. Edward Johnson of Wauseon, Ohio as evangelist. He brought Spirit filled messages which were enjoyed by all who were privileged to attend.

We were glad Sis. Johnson could be with us too.

One dear young sister accepted the Saviour. Please remember her in prayer.

We are few in number and enjoy other members coming in to worship with us.

May the Lord richly bless Bro. and Sis. Johnson as they continue to labor for Jesus.

A Fall Lovefeast was enjoyed by the Walnut Grove Congregation, October 7.

We were glad for the visiting ministers present throughout the day. Ministers present were Kenneth Wolfe, Eldon Mallow, Frank Shaffer, Joshua Rice and Jacob Ness. Bro. Eldon Mallow officiated in the evening service.

Sister Margaret Dayhoff, Ass. Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR DEC.

Dec. 2 — The Spirit of the Lord. Isaiah 61:1-11.

Dec. 9 — The Glory of Jerusalem. Isaiah 62:1-12.

Dec. 16 — "He Was Their Saviour." Isaiah 63:1-19. (64:1-12).

Dec. 23 — THE BIRTH OF CHRIST. Matthew 1:18-25; 2:1-15.

Dec. 30 — New Heavens and a New Earth. Isaiah 65:1-25 (66:1-24).

QUESTIONS:

- (1) Who is Isaiah speaking of in Isaiah 61:1? - Luke 4:16-21.
- (2) Is Jerusalem going to be again restored as a city of God? Isaiah 62:1-4, 7, 12; Rev. 20:9.
- (3) Who is the person mentioned in Isaiah 63:1-3? Isaiah 63:8.
- (4) Where did Joseph and Mary and Jesus go to escape the wrath of Herod? Matt. 2:14.
- (5) Is there going to be a city called Jerusalem on the new earth? Isaiah 65:17; 66:22; Rev. 21:10.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR DECEMBER, 1979

DELIVERANCE

Memory Verse: Ecc. 8:8

There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it.

Sat. 1 - Prov. 28:1-28

Memory Verse: Isa. 19:20

And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the Lord of hosts in the land of Egypt; for they shall cry unto the Lord because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them.

Sun. 2 - Ecc. 8:1-17

Mon. 3 - Ecc. 9:1-18

Tues. 4 - Isa. 5:1-15

Wed. 5 - Isa. 5:16-30

Thur. 6 - Isa. 19:1-25

Fri. 7 - Isa. 31:1-9

Sat. 8 - Isa. 36:1-22

Memory Verse: Isa. 31:5

As birds flying, so will the Lord of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also he will deliver it; and passing over he will preserve it.

Sun. 9 - Isa. 37:1-20

Mon. 10 - Isa. 37:21-38

Tues. 11 - Isa. 38:1-22

Wed. 12 - Isa. 42:1-13

Thur. 13 - Isa. 42:14-25

Fri. 14 - Isa. 43:1-13

Sat. 15 - Isa. 43:14-28

Memory Verse: Isa. 38:17

Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

Sun. 16 - Isa. 44:1-13

Mon. 17 - Isa. 44:14-28

Tues. 18 - Isa. 46:1-13

Wed. 19 - Isa. 47:1-15

Thur. 20 - Isa. 49:1-12

Fri. 21 - Isa. 49:13-26

Sat. 22 - Isa. 50:1-11

Memory Verse: Isa. 9:6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Sun. 23 - Isa. 57:1-21

Mon. 24 - Jer. 1:1-19

Tues. 25 - Isa. 9:1-21

Wed. 26 - Jer. 7:1-16

Thur. 27 - Jer. 7:17-34

Fri. 28 - Jer. 15:1-21

Sat. 29 - Jer. 18:1-23

Memory Verse: Isa. 46:4

And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you.

Lester Fisher
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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 23

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the word;
From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With ev'ry grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious Shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won;
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace, that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with Thee.

— S. J. Stone

THE LIVING ORDINANCES

God is concerned about the welfare and growth of His Spiritual children, therefore He has provided a standard for them to follow. His standard is the New Testament teachings of the Church. By following this standard His children can please Him. This standard is often spoken of as doctrine.

Doctrine is often ignored and many times despised. Many do not wish to hear or know of doctrine, although it is given for their own benefit. Without such teaching the members of the Church, first of all, would not know of the plan of salvation and, secondly, they would not have a clear concept of what was right or wrong in the Christian life. Many may consider doctrine to be dead and dull but in the end it is life, for it teaches the way of salvation and the way to live, pleasing God and producing Christian living.

A part of the Church's doctrine is the ordinances. These ordinances are simple acts, within the capability of all, which teach a deeper Spiritual lesson. These ordinances do demand some action, however simple it may be. This action is putting the doctrines of the New Testament into practice. It is when they are practiced that they have living vitality and fulfill their purpose in advancing Christian lives.

When we observe these ordinances, they are no longer dull, theological studies but become living, joyous helps in our Christian lives. Lovefeasts become mountain top experiences that encourage us when we find ourselves in the valley. When we humble ourselves to wash our Brother's feet, we are putting into practice a direct command of Jesus. Although it requires humility, it in turn gives us joy. Washing feet is a small service that we can

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perform for our Brother and is also a symbol of the humility that should ever be evident in our lives. We should not want to reject this ordinance.

The Lord's Supper is another ordinance that requires only a little effort but repays in great blessings. The fellowship of a meal where all, rich or poor, are on one level unites and strengthens those around the tables. The Supper consists of common items, meat, broth and bread. These items are common to all classes so none are discriminated against around this table.

The Communion service should unite and gladden the hearts of all present. Each should be better prepared for Christian living after they are so forcibly reminded of the price paid for their redemption. The eating of the bread and the drinking of the cup place these simple symbols in our bodies, so we might better remember the suffering and death of Jesus, which He suffered in His body. Although such a meeting is very solemn it also is joyous, for it unites the Brethren and strengthens everyone's desire to live for Him. This is certainly more to us than dead doctrine, it is the living practice that encourages, strengthens and unites us with those of like precious faith.

Another living ordinance is the anointing service. When the sick calls for the Elders to anoint him, his display of faith is a help to all present. The reading of the Scriptures, the comments made upon it, the anointing and the prayers offered help not only the sick, but all who are present. Each one goes away feeling the present power of God awaits only faith, obedience and confession to be unlocked. We see God work in the healing, oft physically and always Spiritually, which adds to the faith and courage of each one.

God in His wisdom had designed these ordinances for our benefit. When we are obedient and put them into practice we reap many blessings that we would lose otherwise. Without these ordinances, it would be difficult to continue on the Christian pathway. To affirm that we believe the Bible in its entirety but then refuse to carry out God's well-intentioned ordinances, is to make ourselves appear untruthful at the best and disobedient and sinful at the worst.

What God does, He does well. This includes what He provides for our benefit Spiritually. He does not provide these ordinances that He may delight in treating us harshly but conversely because He delights in our willing and submissive service. That service however feeble it may be will be repaid many times over in Spiritual blessings here on earth and later in Heaven. Certainly such doctrine can not be dead which sustains us as these ordinances do.

These living ordinances are for your benefit. Are you reaping their intended benefit? Are they alive for you?

THE BIBLE MONITOR

The Bible Monitor has been coming into my home for nearly a half century. I have kept all the issues since the first one I received. As I look over some Monitors of many years ago I notice that many contributors have gone to their eternal reward. I know of no other Church paper that is always filled with such Gospel — doctrine teachings and is so instructive and instrumental in helping us to move onward to the brighter world beyond. We are now living in an age of many religious papers but few Christian ones. The Bible Monitor stands out from the modern trend of the Churches.

It is filled with rich spiritual food that is good for the soul's salvation. It is a strong, beacon light for the faith once delivered to the saints. It is a great blessing and consolation to have come into our homes news and words of comfort from those of like precious faith from many miles away. We may be living many miles apart but we can be united for the faith once delivered to the saints.

The Bible Monitor originated through a belief in the saving Gospel of Christ and contributed to a separation from the evils of the world, as we are commanded to come out from among them and be ye separate. Because of a falling away by many from the path of truth and righteousness, a reorganization was considered necessary to be true to the saving Gospel of Christ. "For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved." John 3:20. If we have escaped the corruption and pollution that is in the world through lusts and are again entangled, the latter end is worse than the beginning. It is indeed a sad condition for those who have turned away from the way of truth and righteousness. The Bible and Bible Monitor have been instrumental in leading souls from darkness to the marvelous light. After many have fallen from the fundamental principles of the Gospel. The saving Gospel of Christ condemns the putting on of apparel and costly array that are accepted by many of our so-called Churches in our day. The true Church is existing through Gospel authority.

As I think of my boyhood days, great changes have taken place among many professing Christians. The plain, simple life has disappeared at many places of the worship. This is indeed a sad condition for the true Christians to behold, as God has called our faithful foreparents to be separate from the world. He is calling for us, today, to be true to His Word. We are told in the saving Gospel that in the latter times there shall be a falling away, a departing, from the faith of the Gospel. Are we as thankful as we should be that we can be with the faithful? A great reward is awaiting the faithful soldiers of the Cross of Christ.

May it be our desire that the Bible Monitor will always meet the Holy and Divine approval of God. We should pray for it that it may continue to be a guiding light in this dark and sinful world that through it many may find the Way to God.

Brother J. F. Marks

R.D. 3 Box 509, York, Pa. 17402

BLAME IT ON THE DOG

A family had a silly answer for times when the freezer was left open, or the milk was spilled in the refrigerator, when everyone said, "I didn't do it." "Blame it on the dog" was the phrase they used, when obviously no one else did it! That's about how silly most of our excuses and denials are. We DID do it, we did make a mistake. But admit it? Never! It had to be someone else's fault.

Unwillingness to accept the responsibility for one's own actions, not being able to say, "I did it," are marks of immaturity. Sometimes we just aren't grown-up enough to face what we have done. When things turn out wrong, it's so easy to say "I didn't do it!" It is also easy to say, "he made me do it" or "she tempted me," but that doesn't relieve you of your responsibility either. You can't "blame it on the dog" and avoid the consequences of your actions.

You have a responsibility to control yourself. You certainly can't expect others to do it for you, although those who are Christ's will be concerned for you. An unbeliever will not be concerned about your weaknesses and may encourage you to "live it up," but that will not excuse you. Loudly blaming or condemning someone else, whether guilty or innocent, may direct people's attention away from you, but that doesn't change anything either. You are still responsible for your own actions.

Adam blamed Eve because she gave him the forbidden fruit; she in turn blamed the serpent. But God considered each responsible for his own act and punished them accordingly. Aaron excused himself to Moses for having made the golden calf because the people asked for a god to worship. The people excused themselves "because they didn't know what had become of Moses." It did not help to make excuses and try to sidestep responsibility for the mistakes made. In the end, they only brought suffering upon themselves.

Job said, "And be it indeed that I have erred, mine error remaineth with myself." (19:4) He knew that when he erred, he couldn't push the responsibility off on someone else. Jesus said, "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." Matt. 12:26. A

day of reckoning will come when you will be required to give account of yourself — to admit what you have done. You can't make excuses and no one else is going to take the blame for you, so it pays to be honest and responsible right now.

"When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." I Cor. 13:11. "Brethren, be not children in understanding." I Cor. 14:20a. It is easy for a child to blame others, to refuse responsibility for what he does, but there comes a time for a child to grow up. As understanding increases, childish ways such as temper tantrums, selfishness, irresponsibility are left behind. If you remain a child in understanding, your actions will show it. Make it your business to grow up and be a man — one that pleases God.

"But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." Heb. 5:14. "Of full age" means maturity and this is a result of growth. We don't mature spiritually overnight anymore than we do physically, but we are expected to mature. Spiritual maturity is affected by what we do, what we read and think about and the responsibilities we accept. We must be especially careful about what we read, a mind and soul fed on garbage (silly novels, trashy magazines) can't be healthy and mature.

There comes a time in your life when you ought to be mature enough to accept responsibility, to teach others, to discern good and evil (see Heb. 5:12-14). If you have been taught, you should be able to help others, but if you haven't learned anything, you certainly can't teach others. Your state of ignorance does not excuse you, however, for it is time to apply yourself and learn what God would have you do with your life. Make use of your knowledge to discern good and evil. Then you can help those about you.

"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." Eph. 4:15. "And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love..." I Thess. 3:12. Love is the motivating factor which will prompt you to be responsible and not blame others. Love will even accept the blame for another's careless actions — this is what Christ did for us. It is far better to suffer wrongfully than to make another suffer for what you do.

"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Rom. 14:12. Whatever you've done with your life, whatever your actions, day to day, you must give account of yourself. No one else will be required to answer for you; your circumstances are no excuse either. You cannot "blame it on the dog."

Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

"PEACE BE STILL"

Matt. 8:24-27; Mark 4:47-41; Luke 8:23-25

Were you ever in a boat on the ocean when it was rough and the waves were high. I have been and it makes one feel pretty helpless and insecure. One day Jesus and His disciples were crossing the Sea of Galilee in a boat. The Sea of Galilee is noted for having sudden storms. Sure enough, a storm came upon them.

Some of Jesus' disciples were fishermen and had seen many storms on the Sea of Galilee but they had never seen a storm like this one. The waves were breaking over the boat and the ship was full of water. The disciples were doing all they could to save the boat but the storm got worse and worse. Jesus was sleeping on a pillow in the back part of the ship. He was tired from talking to and healing so many people — but how could anyone sleep in a storm like this? Finally the disciples, realizing that they were helpless, woke Jesus and said, "Master, carest thou not that we perish?" They knew Jesus could do many miracles but they had never been in such a storm. Could Jesus help them now? Do you know what Jesus did? He just stood up in the boat and said to the wind and waves, "Peace be still." What do you suppose happened? The wind and the raging of the sea ceased and there was a great calm. The Sea of Galilee was peaceful — not a ripple or a wave. If the boat had not been full of water, it would have seemed like a dream that there had ever been a storm.

The disciples were amazed and afraid and said one to another, "What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and the water and they obey him." I think those disciples were happy too, don't you? They thought they were all going to drown but now they were safe. They had Jesus with them who could do anything!

Sometimes in our lives, we too have storms come upon us. We often feel that the trials and troubles we have are too much for us to handle. We get out on life's troubled sea and we often despair. But there is help for you — there is help for me. We can say to Jesus, "Lord save me, I perish." Then the blessing will come. Jesus can smooth the trials and He can give strength to overcome. For He has said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." Let Jesus come into your heart. He wants to say to you, "Peace, Be Still."

Brother Rudy Cover

HOLY SPIRIT

Continued from November 15, 1979 Issue

Jesus is still extending the hand of mercy to those who are lost. If you put it off too long, how sad it will be. We are told, "My spirit shall not always strive with man." Can you hear Him calling, "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."? Every soul is welcome into the presence of the Lord. He does not care how poor you are.

When we come before the judge in the last day the books will be open and there will be an accurate account of the deeds done while here on earth. Some books here, when they come to be taken into account, are found not accurate. But we all know Christ's record will be correct. Many a time we all have wished we could erase things from that record. Let us each one be more careful about the record that we are making. Paul tells us, "... God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my Gospel." We read where Paul tells us, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing assunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a decerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." We are also told that if we judge ourselves, we shall not be judged.

I believe there are going to be a lot of disappointed people when He comes to claim His own. We are told to strive to enter into the strait gate, for many will seek to enter and will not be able. Most of us today have His word to study. If we don't, we can easily find a copy of it. I am sure we don't have any excuse because if we are seeking to find the way of the Lord, the way would be open for us and if we seek to find the Lord, He is always near. There is no reason for anyone to be disappointed. Pharoah said of Joseph after he had interpreted the king's dream, "Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?" Peter tells us, "...holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Our teacher told us that he felt that the Holy Spirit gave men an x-ray vision of the future.

How could Christ or any of His Apostles instruct us in such preparation, unless they had had a glimpse into the future and could see what was coming? It is the same today. We could not prepare for winter, if we did not know that it was coming. I believe the prophets and many more in the Old Testament, as well as the disciples, were able to look into the future and see coming events. We should not be so concerned about today but for tomorrow, what is before each of us in the future, concerning the salvation of

souls. Christ tells us His own Church will be in that day like the ten Virgins, only half were ready to go when God called.

If we have the Holy Spirit we can get the message of salvation to the dying world. The twelve apostles accompanied Jesus for three years. They heard His doctrine, witnessed the miracles He performed and were in His company on many a mission. He taught them many wonderful things about His doctrine, but Paul received His message through the Holy Spirit. We learn that when Paul came among the twelve they all believed on the same Jesus Christ, having one Faith and were all of one accord.

When Christ sent the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, He dictated what He taught and believed. We know the Holy Spirit is a safe teacher. We find perfect harmony between Christ's teaching and the Holy Spirit who taught the Apostle Paul. "And they were astonished at his doctrine." We are told the early converts, "continued steadfastly in the apostle's doctrine." I believe today our ministers should preach more on the doctrine and let all hear what we as a Church stand for. Those who are young in the Church may be helped to be more steadfast. Christ incorporated government and discipline in the Church.

Are we "thoroughly furnished unto every good work"? It might be well for us to notice and see if this is true of us, both as related to our Christian life and conduct and care for the interest of the Church. Can we say that this is true of our school here at the present time (1920)? If we as members of this Christian School are born of the Spirit, we will conduct ourselves in such a way that those around us will know we are following the Lord Jesus, who died that we might live. In 1920 I believe those in the School were trying to follow in Christ's footsteps, but where are they now? If you entered the same school, you would not recognize it. My, how sad! But our Lord never changed, He is the same yesterday and today and forever.

We must be careful of where we are headed. If we are born of the Spirit and led by the Spirit, He will guide us on that strait and narrow way to life eternal. Our preachers are full of the Holy Spirit and their messages give us a desire to press on that upward way. We sing and pray by the Spirit. When a preacher stands before an audience and the Holy Spirit gives him the words to say, we know he is a man living for Him. Why is it that education has come in and Christ has gone out? Our dear ministers pray for divine help. Although they may have little education, they become able and fruitful ministers of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus.

Many ministers are highly educated, but they lack the Spirit of Christ. So their messages come from the head, not the heart. This

is very sad. Cold messages do not touch the heart of the unsaved. I wonder what the Dear Lord thinks. If we hear a spiritual message, one that comes from the indwelling Spirit, it touches the unsaved and finds a dwelling place. We must be led by the Spirit of Christ if we expect to impart love and grace to others.

Elisha asked, "Let a double portion; of the spirit rest upon me." How about us, do we desire a double portion of His Spirit upon us, so we can reach out to those that are lost? Paul's conversion has always meant alot to me. It is a wonderful thing to see how he was blinded by the great light. He knew it was Jesus, but the answer came, "I am Jesus whom thou persecuted." How willing he was to find out what he must do. He obeyed his Master and did a wonderful work for Him.

I pray that when each of us comes to the end of our journey, here below, that we will be greeted with the welcome message of joy and cheer, "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

We are told that charity never faileth. Faith and hope are for a little while, but charity is for all eternity; charity is the greatest. We must have Faith to please God. We as Christians need Hope. If we did not have hope for a future home in Heaven, what would we do? That great Hope keeps us going on towards that Heavenly home. Paul tells us that hope is the anchor of the soul.

"Faith will Vanish into sight;
Hope be emptied in delight,
Love in heaven shines more bright:
Therefore, give us love."

Let us all remember Christ, our Redeemer, is a gift to the world, sent by the Father; The Holy Spirit is a gift to the Church, sent by the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit was sent to teach you all things and to bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have taught you. He will show you things to come. He will reprove the world of sin and of judgment to come. Dear ones, shall we not share in the joy of that future homecoming in that eternal day, and dwell in that eternal City with God's eternal family?

Sister E. M. Alltus



GALILEO'S TESTIMONY—Galileo, the philosopher, when asked by the Roman Inquisition as to his belief in God, replied, pointing to a straw on the floor, that, from the structure of that straw alone, he would infer the existence of an intelligent Creator.

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

PART 12

Continuation of the Fifth Dispensation of the World

After the fall of man and after the first four dispensations, we find that God, in His mercy, began to prepare and lead a people, His called out, from the kingdom of this world, a separate people, for His kingdom. We should ever be mindful of the fact that God's Word teaches us that God's kingdom in its nature is Spiritual and separate from the kingdoms of the world.

As we follow the Bible account of God's doings we are made to believe that He designed the way for man's redemption and reconciliation (after his fall) through His Son, Jesus Christ. That people became the children of Israel, whom God allowed to have a King and to become a fleshly kingdom. For centuries, God watched over and protected this people from their enemies, but when they forsook Him and became idolators His glory left the Temple and He gave them over to their enemies.

Let us follow Israel until God allowed them to have a king and an earthly kingdom. Remember God said, "And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation." Exod. 19:6. Follow them through the descendants of three of the tribes, Gad, Reuben and half tribe Manasseh. The Word says, "Unto them were given the kingdom of Sihon and the kingdom of Og.

NOTE: The account as given by Moses, Num. 32:29-33, "And Moses said unto them, If the children of Gad and the children of Reuben will pass with you over Jordan, every man armed to battle, before the Lord, and the land shall be subdued before you; then ye shall give them the land of Gilead for a possession: But if they will not pass over with you armed, they shall have possessions among you in the land of Canaan. And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben answered, saying, As the Lord hath said unto thy servants, so will we do. We will pass over armed before the Lord into the land of Canaan, that the possession of our inheritance on this side Jordan may be ours. And Moses gave unto them, even to the children of Gad, and to the children of Reuben, and unto half the tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, and the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, the land, with the cities thereof in the coasts, even the cities of the country round about."

God through Moses kept his covenant with the fathers to give them the land of Canaan. God confirmed their territory and the boundaries of their land in Deut. 3:12-13; and Joshua 13:1-15, showing an inheritance was to be given to the other nine tribes and

the other half tribe of Manasseh. To Levi He gave no inheritance. The sacrifices of the Lord God of Israel made by fire are their inheritance as he said unto them in verses 13-14.

In the days of Joshua, who succeeded Moses as God's chosen leader of His people, we record seven items or events that occurred in his day concerning the fifth Dispensation. First, there was the invasion of the land, Josh. 1:5. Second, The fall of Jericho, Josh. 6. Third, The battle of Ai, and Israel at Ebal and Gerizim, chapters 7 and 8. The other four items are: The conquest of the south, the conquest of the north, the list of kings smitten, the division of the land, the appointment of the cities of refuge, and the Farewell address and death of Joshua.

The leading topic of the book of Joshua is the conquest and division of the land of Canaan. Before the death of Joshua, the people promised him that they would serve the Lord God. Josh. 24:13-14. After Joshua's death, in the days of the Judges they took Hebron, but some of the Canaanites were yet left. God sent an angel to rebuke His people at Bochim shewing the wickedness of the new generation after Joshua and their punishment. Judges 2:1-2. The Word records that they buried Joshua, "And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel." Judges 2:10. And we find that this new generation forsook the Lord by following other gods, so the anger of the Lord was hot against them wherever they went.

After this, God raised up Deborah, Barak, Gideon and others to deliver Israel out of the hands of their enemies. However they were oppressed and cried out to God. God in His mercy again pitied them as they repented. Nevertheless they served the Philistines forty years.

In this we have an example of God's unchanging law. Gal. 6:7-8, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." In those days, all these things happened to Israel and more. When we come to the end of the days of the Judges, we learn that there was no fleshly King in Israel. God who is a Spirit led and ruled over His people. "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes." Judges 21:25.

To be continued
Brother William Root

OBITUARY

MARTHA WOODWARD

Sis. Martha (Eby) Woodward was born April 22, 1889 at Morrill, Kansas and passed away September 30, 1979 at the age of 90, at the Quinter Long Term Care Home, where she had been a resident for several years.

She was married to Ralph Woodward, October 16, 1919. They moved to the Quinter community in 1925. Ralph preceded her in death, October 25, 1974. She is survived by one son, Ralph Earl of Golden, Colorado, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Hendricks Funeral Home Chapel with Brethren Dale and Herman Jamison officiating.

MARRIAGES

NOECKER - KEENEY

Sister Florence Noecker, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Samuel Noecker, Auburn, Pennsylvania, and Bro. Eugene Keeney, son of Bro. and Sis. Norman Keeney, Red Lion, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage August 4, 1979 at the couple's present home by Elder David Ebling. The couple's address is R. 1, Felton, Pennsylvania 17322.

WOLFE - SWEITZER

Sister Cynthia Wolfe, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Verling Wolfe, Bethel, Pennsylvania, and Bro. Merle Sweitzer, son of Bro. and Sis. Clifron Sweitzer, Red Lion, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage August 11, 1979 at the home of the bride by Elder James Kegerreis. Bro. David Kegerreis conducted the opening devotions. The couple will make their home at R. 3, Box 81, Red Lion, Pennsylvania 17356.

HEARN - KEENEY

Sister Wilma Hearn, daughter of Mr. Elwood Hearn, Waynesboro, Pennsylvania and the late Sister Fannie Hearn, and Bro. Harold Keeney, son of Bro. and Sis. Kenneth Keeney, Seven Valleys, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage October 13, 1979 at the couple's present home by Bro. David Kegerreis. The couple's address is R. 1, Wernersville, Pennsylvania 19565.

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The address of Bro. W. E. Bashor has changed to 875 Lorna Drive, Glen Ellen, California 95442.

NOTICE

It is again time for the Editor to be informed of any changes to be made in the Ministerial list or other information in the February 1st issue. Please inform him by January 1, 1980.

LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lititz Congregation enjoyed another two week revival from September 23 through October 7 with Elder Dean St. John as our evangelist. Although there were no souls added to the Church at this time, we pray that the good seed which was sown will bring forth a harvest at a later date. We were glad to have Sister St. John with us during the two weeks.

On Saturday, October 20, we held our Fall Lovefeast with a good attendance. Ministers present were: Paul Myers, David Ebling, Virgil Leatherman, Frank Shaffer, David Kegerreis and Kenneth Wolfe. At the close of the afternoon service a Brother was received back into the Church. Elder Paul Myers officiated in the evening. Elders Frank Shaffer and Paul Myers stayed for Sunday morning.

Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

QUINTER, KANSAS

We have just finished a week of refreshing meetings with soul-stirring messages by Bro. Hayes Reed. We were made to rejoice when two young brethren desired to fellowship with us. They were received on their former baptisms. We thank God for those who are still willing to follow the leading of the Lord.

The meetings were well attended and we are grateful to our visitors for their help during the Lovefeast.

The new addition and remodeling of the church were finished in time for the meetings, thanks to the many willing hands "who had a mind to work."

During the summer a young boy accepted Jesus as his Saviour and was baptized. May he ever grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord.

We now have more responsibility as older ones to be a shining example to the younger members. May we each be more determined to follow our Saviour as we commit our lives to Him.

Sister Ethel Whitmer, Cor.

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation held their fall Lovefeast October 28. Visiting ministers throughout the day were Elders Jacob Ness, Laverne Keeney, Allen Eberly and Bro. Jack Snyder. Bro. Snyder officiated in the evening.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

THANK YOU

May God bless all the Brothers and Sisters for the kind Christian love and concern given to our beloved mother - Sister Ada M. Whitman, both in health and in sickness, during her life here on earth. The charitable acts and deeds of thoughtfulness and kindness given her through the many years, by her beloved Brethren in the Lord, was the kiss of God's love to her dear heart. The language of the heart is unexpressable in words, but the giver and receiver both share equally its contents in love one to the other. Yea! Even life! "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren." I John 3:14. To have sweet fellowship and to worship her glorious Lord with her Brethren were the spiritual joys and food her soul so delighted in. O, how she loved the Brethren! Now her soul rests with all the redeemed in the Lord Jesus' Paradise, but the spiritual light of her life lives on! Praise God's Holy Name!

We want to thank our beloved Brethren for your prayers, cards, flowers, memorial gifts, words of comfort and sympathy given us at the death of our mother and sister in the Lord, Ada M. Whitman. May God bless each one is our prayer.

Her daughters:

Sister Lelah Belle Souder,

Sister Luluvene Yates,

Mrs. Fern Baeder



NICHOLAS PAID THE DEBT

A soldier in Russia owed a great deal of money, and he knew not where to get it. On a piece of paper he made out a list of all his debts, and underneath wrote: "Who shall pay these debts?" He then fell asleep, and while in that condition the Emperor of Russia passed by, and taking the paper, read the question. Having read it, he took a pen and at the bottom signed his name "Nicholas." When the soldier awoke, he thought it was all too good to be true, but in the morning the money came, and the debt was paid.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LVII

DECEMBER 15, 1979

NO. 24

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

HARK, THE GLAD SOUND

Hark, the glad sound! the Savior comes!

The Savior promised long!

Let every heart prepare a throne,

And every voice a song.

He comes, the prisoner to release,

In Satan's bondage held;

The gates of brass before Him burst,

The iron fetters yield.

He comes, from thickest films of vice

To clear the mental ray,

And on the eyeballs of the blind

To pour celestial day.

He comes, the broken heart to bind,

The bleeding soul to cure,

And with the treasure of His grace,

To enrich the humble poor.

— Philip Doddridge

THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS

"For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." I Cor. 2:2.

The Christmas season brings before the child of God many customs and activities that are contrary to the Gospel. This season has become a time of revelry and merrymaking. All of this is done supposedly in honor of the One who desires sobriety and piety. Many legends have been attached to the Christmas story. Symbols and motifs have been invented and added to the paraphernalia of the season. All of this is done to honor the One who urged truth and simplicity. It seems that in the maze of legend and commercialism Christ has been pretty well driven out of Christmas.

The child of God needs to look beyond the glitter and the hoopla surrounding Christmas that he might see Christ. The important event that should attract our attention is that Christ did come to this earth. In His coming, we have more than a sweet, sentimental story to warm the heart, we have the plan of salvation brought down to us. Despite the surrounding, almost overwhelming, trappings that have nearly smothered Christ out of Christmas, we need to see Him not only as the Babe of Bethlehem but also as the suffering Saviour of Calvary.

Do we have the same determination as the Apostle Paul? Even in the perverted celebration of this season, can we be determined enough to find and to know Christ only? Determination or perserverance is one of the qualities needed in the Christian walk of life. That determination is necessary not only in the ordering of our lives to please Him but even in keeping our eyes of faith

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upon Him. If we lose sight of Him we will soon be driven about on the wild sea of doubt, evil and dissipation. This season, supposedly set aside in His honor, often hides Him from our spiritual view with its festivities, paganisms and commercialism.

Just as Paul had to be very determined to find Christ among the Corinthians then we also need determination to find Him at this season. The Church at Corinth had perverted many of the doctrines and ordinances that had been delivered to them by Paul. He had to correct them concerning the prayer veil and the Lovefeast service as well as in their marriages and other problems that had arisen there. So today instead of the peace and good will envisioned at this season, we have drunkenness, greed and anger. The symbol of Christmas for most people has become Santa Claus or the Christmas tree. Christ is left out. But then He was pretty well left out at Corinth where they reveled and banqueted rather than have orderly Lovefeasts. There they accommodated the world, often contending against the doctrines and ordinances given for their benefit such as the prayer covering.

There are many things that can allure our sight from Him if we are not determined enough. These things may be good and proper in themselves in their place but when they hinder our view of Him they must be put aside. These things may easily arise in this season. With a feeling of sociability and sharing it is easy to be caught up in the activities that the world has appended to Christmas. Many of these things have even been brought into the Churches. Just as Paul needed a great determination in order to find Christ among the Corinthians and their activities so it demands diligence to find Him in the superfluous activities of this Christmas season.

To demonstrate how Christ has nearly been driven from the holiday named for Him, we have only to consider that often "Christmas" has been abbreviated to "Xmas." This effectively leaves Him out. It displays this world's disregard for Him and their regard for convenience. It is easier to write the name without Him in it.

The Bethlehem scene may be touching and heartwarming but its real meaning comes to us only when we realize that He was born to die. But His death was not for Himself or His infirmities; it was for us. We must know Him not as a Babe but as our Crucified Saviour. The scene at Bethlehem with its stable, the angels and the shepherds is so peaceful and inviting but this was but the beginning that would end in a different scene at Calvary. There is a scene of agony, rejection and burdenbearing. It is not an inviting scene, but it is as necessary as the Bethlehem scene. For without it, Bethlehem would be without meaning.

Are you as determined as Paul to know the crucified Christ? Are you able to find Him even in the midst of this season of misguided activities? Do you know the real Jesus?

JESUS OF NAZARETH

What's so special about a man named Jesus? Any man could be named Joshua, Yeshua (Heb.) or Jesus (Greek) — all forms of the same name, meaning "saviour." And Nazareth — that isn't very special either. It was a town nestled in a basin in the mountains, a rather out-of-the-way place. It apparently didn't have a very good reputation either, which gave rise to a question, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Something good did come out of Nazareth and there is something special about the man Jesus, for not just anyone could be "Jesus of Nazareth."

"Jesus of Nazareth" is part of the title Pilate gave Jesus when He was crucified. It is the title still used by Jews today to designate which Jesus they are referring to. To them, Jesus of Nazareth was just an ordinary man, a good teacher but not God's Son, the Jesus of the Christian's New Testament. Is Jesus of Nazareth any more to you than that? He should be. Let's think now about who Jesus really is, why He was born, and what His life on earth means to us today.

"But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2. Bethlehem probably wasn't a very important town either, that is until Jesus was born there. Christ's birth caused quite a stir, first among the shepherds and later all over Jerusalem. It should cause quite a stir in your heart, too, for Jesus came to this earth to redeem you. "Bethlehem" means "house of bread" and Jesus is the "Bread of Life" to those who accept Him.

Herod, the king, viewed Christ's birth as a threat to his own position and sought to kill Him, but Jesus was born for a special purpose and no one could interfere. God delayed Herod's plans by sending the wise men home another way, and then finally, He sent Joseph, Mary and Jesus to Egypt to escape Herod's death sentence. Jesus was to die for us at the appointed time, and we should think of His birth, not as just an unusual event, but as the beginning of the earthly life of our Saviour.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting

Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." Isa. 9:6-7. There's a similar passage in Luke 1:31-35. Do you still think Jesus is just ordinary? Anyone who can bring us peace and hope as He does, can't be ordinary.

"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord." Isa. 11:1-2. "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him... And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." Luke 2:40, 52. Jesus had something that no one else had. He was, and is, someone that no one else is, for He is God's Son.

Jesus lived in Nazareth until the time when John the Baptist was imprisoned (see Matt. 2:23). At this time, Jesus moved to Capernaum and there began His ministry (Matt. 4:13). "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn." Isa. 61:1-2. Jesus came to minister to each need that we have. Certainly, it was not an ordinary ministry. Have you allowed Him to minister to your needs?

"He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." John 1:11-12. The Jewish people, Christ's own, have not accepted Him as a nation, but they are being drawn to Him. Rabbi Grollman of St. Louis said, "The promise of inner peace is drawing Jewish young people away from Judaism and toward Christianity." The things we can do, whether we are Jew or Gentile, will never bring us peace. Peace comes into our lives when Jesus of Nazareth comes into our hearts.

Jesus' birth was not ordinary; His ministry was not ordinary. Jesus' death and resurrection certainly were not ordinary events. Jesus was born to die that you and I might live — eternally. Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews, is my Saviour. Is He yours?

Sister Eileen Broadwater
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THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

A MAN CALLED LEGION

Mark 5:1-21; Luke 8:26-40

One time Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee with His disciples to a country called Gadera. They arrived at a place where there was a cemetery. As Jesus got out of the boat, a man met Him. He lived in the tombs that were cut out of the rock where people buried their dead. I don't suppose these tombs were all occupied or filled, so it was a place where this man could find shelter. The man was possessed with so many devils or evil spirits, so he acted like a crazy man. People had tried to bind him with chains and ropes but he was so strong that he just pulled the chains off and broke the ropes into pieces. Nobody could tame him. He was a wild man; he walked in the mountains and among the tombs yelling and cutting himself with stones. He had torn all his clothes off and was naked.

If I were to meet a man like that I suppose I would run away but Jesus didn't. What do you think the man did when he saw Jesus? The Bible says he saw Jesus when he was afar off and ran to Him and worshipped Him. Jesus commanded the unclean spirit to come out of him. He cried with a loud voice, "What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God. Don't torment me." Jesus said, "What is your name?" He answered, "Legion, for we are many."

It's a little hard to understand who is talking — the devils, or the man, but by knowing how it all turned out we know the devils that were in the man were using him to talk for them. "Legion" means a great number. In the Roman army a legion was six thousand men.

There was a large herd of about two thousand pigs feeding nearby and the devils begged Jesus to let them enter the pigs. Jesus commanded them to go and the devils went into the pigs. How do you think the pigs liked that? They didn't. They took off like they were possessed (which they were) and ran down a steep place to the sea and were drowned.

There were men who were feeding the pigs. When they saw the pigs were drowned, they went and told the owners what had happened. They came to Jesus from the city and the country and saw Legion sitting and clothed and in his right mind. The ones who were feeding the pigs told all about what had happened and the men were afraid. Then they begged Jesus to go away. They were more concerned over the loss of their pigs than they were about how wonderful it was that Jesus had healed and clothed this Legion. Where did Jesus get clothes? We don't know, but Jesus

can do anything. If Jesus could calm a storm, heal the sick, bring the dead to life and make the blind see, I'm sure He could put clothes on a man by just speaking the word.

Legion wanted Jesus to take him along but Jesus said, "Return to your own house and show how great things God has done unto you." So he went and told everyone in the city of Decapolis what Jesus had done for him so that the people marvelled. After a time Jesus came again to the same place. Because of what Legion had said, the people gladly received Jesus and were all waiting for Him.

Has Jesus ever done anything for you? Everything we have, the air we breath, the water we drink, the food we eat and the clothes we wear are all from God. Jesus can also cleanse you from sin and the power of the devil. Will you be a missionary for Jesus like Legion?

Brother Rudy Cover

A WICKED QUEEN

I Kings 21

Queen Jezebel was arrayed in her finest robes of crimson and purple velvet. Several bracelets of gold adorned her bare arms. Silver ear rings hung almost to her shoulders and jangled in confusion as she haughtily tossed her head. Most of the morning hours were spent dressing with meticulous care for she wanted to impress the visitors, who were invited to the palace. With painstaking exactness her maids had pencilled each eyebrow, a dusky black. Her mouth looked like a gash of blood. Her painted cheeks were feverishly bright and seemed to emphasize the glitter of her cruel eyes.

Impatiently, Jezebel tapped her daintily clad foot on the marble floor. Where was her husband, King Ahab? Already the sundial pointed toward the middle of the day. What had happened to detain him? She quickly summoned a passing servant, "Go, and tell King Ahab that he must dress speedily for our guests will soon arrive!"

The servant shook his head, "Nay, Mistress, he was very angry when he came into the house, several hours ago. The door of his room is still closed and no one has dared to disturb him all morning."

"What!" exclaimed the queen, "You would refuse to obey me? Go, at once, and tell him that I have called him." With a shrug the servant turned away. Soon he was back. "There is no response to my knocking," he said.

"Nonsense, I will go myself and find out what detains him." Pushing the door open, Jezebel entered his room. King Ahab lay upon his bed, his face turned to the wall. "Arise quickly and dress speedily for our guests will soon be here! The servants are even now preparing the meal!"

Beneath the rumpled covers came the muttered words, "Go away, I want nothing to eat and my heart is too heavy for merriment."

"What is the meaning of this behavior?" demanded the queen. "What could possibly upset the supreme ruler of Israel that he is brought to such a low state of mind?"

"Naboth will not sell me his vineyard, which I especially desire to own, not only because it is near the palace, but also because the soil is ideal for the growing of herbs. The stubborn fellow refuses to sell it, neither will he accept one in exchange since the vineyard was inherited from his father."

The queen stamped her foot, "Where is your reasoning? Are you not king of Israel? Do you not govern the land? Arise, eat and be merry, I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite!"

A wicked scheme was rapidly forming in her mind. There was no time to waste. How eager she was for revenge. Quickly she entered the king's study, where the writing materials were kept. How could a lowly subject such as Naboth, refuse to give her husband, the king, the portion of land that he desired? Jezebel ground her teeth in rage. Her eyes glittered with hate. After writing letters to the elders and nobles in the city, she sealed each one with the king's seal, making the decree final, then she sent servants to deliver each letter to its destination.

When the elders and nobles opened the letters they were astonished to read the instructions. Naboth, who was a respectable citizen, was to be set on high among the people as a public example. Two false witnesses were to be chosen to speak lies against him saying that he had blasphemed against God and the king. Then Naboth was to be carried out and stoned until he died. Even though these men were amazed at these unjust proceedings, they also feared the king and hastened to carry out the instructions.

Naboth was rudely snatched away from his gardening and set on high among the people. "What have I done to deserve this harsh treatment?" inquired Naboth.

"It's the king's orders!" was the only answer he received. Throngs of people had gathered. Two rough characters emerged from the crowd, shaking their fists and muttering curses. "This fellow had blasphemed against God and the King! Stone him, he is not fit to live!" With an angry roar, this innocent man was drug away and stoned to death.

Queen Jezebel was soon notified of his death. What a wicked heart she must have had to condemn an innocent man to death just to gain her own selfish desires. With grim satisfaction, Jezebel entered Ahab's room once more. "Did I not tell thee that I would give thee the vineyard of Naboth that you so much desired? Arise, and take possession of it for Naboth is dead and the vineyard is yours!"

Wickedness does not go unpunished. God brought evil upon the house of Ahab. God punished this evil woman with a horrible death. Her own servants threw her down from a high window, where she fell to the street below. Horses and chariots ran over her body and dogs ate her flesh so that when they came to bury her they could find no more than the skull, and the feet and the palms of her hands. This was a sorry end for the queen, who had no time for God in her life. Her heart was bound up in riches, costly possessions, and selfish pride. She was very vain and she is the only woman mentioned in the Bible who painted her face.

Many women today, paint their faces, pluck their eyebrows and wear their hair in many unbecoming and ridiculous fashions. They also are willing to follow the immodest fashions of dressing. These are traits manifesting a proud and sinful heart and are the direct opposite of the Christian woman, who has a meek and quiet spirit and dresses in modest attire. Who would want to be like the wicked Queen Jezebel?

Sister Maxine E. Surbey
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GOING TO WORSHIP

When Jesus was only twelve years old, He went with His parents to the Temple in Jerusalem. We find Jesus made no excuses but went with them to worship. Do we find this in our homes today? How many of the children love to go to Church? I am speaking not only of Christian homes but also of those who do not try to have Christ in their home. Are they, as parents, willing to send their child to the house of worship if they do not care to go themselves? I believe if we bring our little ones up to go to church, when they have their own homes they will have a great desire to attend church. It is very sad for me to see children brought up in these homes where Christ is not a part, where they are not making any preparation for the life hereafter. They are too busy out at the lake or some place of entertainment.

We never read in the Bible of people having a sickness called Sunday sickness, but we find it today. When Sunday is gone they are fine and on Monday we find them at work. What every home of

this old world needs is prayer. If we have regular Bible study and prayer with our children, I am sure we will find them ready on Sunday to spend the day with others in the house of worship. What are we doing as followers of Jesus to help these dear children who do not know the happiness one receives by going to the place of worship? Let us take this to the Lord and see if He will direct us to a soul that needs His love and care in bringing up his family for the Lord.

Staying away from God's house of worship seems to be contagious. It attacks the soul. I am sure prayer is the answer. He will answer if we pray in Faith believing and then wait for the answer. Everyone needs to go to church to get food for his soul so he can grow Spiritually. It is the same as in our every day life, we must have food daily so our bodies will grow. We want the spiritual part to grow, so the more we attend services, the more we grow spiritually and become more like Christ. We all want to grow more like the Master so we need to meet with those of like precious faith and sing the songs of Zion.

What would our week be like if we did not look forward to Sunday? When I was a child I would count the days till Sunday. To a child, it seemed so long until Sunday would come again. I am sure it was because I loved to go to Church. I still love to go to Church. And I love to go to Conference, where I can meet those I have not been able to visit with for awhile. Seeing their bright smiling faces and having sweet fellowship, we have joy together. There is no money that can buy that sweet fellowship with those of like precious faith. I am sure none of us will ever forget these precious memories. Let us keep on labouring till the Master calls each of us to His Home beyond the River and the stars, that shine from Heaven's Blue.

I am on the journey that I have been traveling for some time. It may be very long, but in my heart there is a song. I have no thoughts of trouble, I am hoping to reach my home before long. Although the road may be rough and it goes very slow, though rains, sleet and snow may come, if we have Christ as our guide we will get home at the close of the day. We find the same things on life's journey. As we travel here below some days are very dark and dreary, but we just sing a song. Let us travel on though the wind may blow. Many times we may fall but we must look beyond the storm clouds for that silver lining, knowing God can conquer all. Our sight may grow dim but soon we'll settle down forever, where the storms will never blow.

Sister E. M. Alltus

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

Continued from December 1, 1979 Issue

The Book of Judges gives the history of Israel during the time of the fourteen Judges. We think of these in three different periods. First, the period immediately after the death of Joshua; Second, the period of the seven apostacies, six servitudes, and civil war; Third, the period of confusion and anarchy. The Book of Judges may be compared, as a companion book, with the Book of Galatians. Let us compare the relapse of Israel into idolatry with the backsliding of the Galatian Church into ceremonialism.

We note: Character studies in those days, such as Deborah, Gideon, Jephtha and Samson. God also raised up Ruth and finally Samuel in Israel. Also there was Hannah, Eli and the sins of his sons. God revealed to Samuel the destruction of Eli's house. Israel was again overcome by the Philistines. The Ark of God was taken. Hophni and Phineas were slain. Eli hearing the tidings fell backward and his neck broke.

The prayer of the righteous changed things. Samuel prayed and the Philistines were discomfited. By the occasion of the ill government of Samuel's sons the Israelites asked for a king. We have reason to believe that God did not want them to be like other nations and have a worldly kingdom.

Samuel warns them how their king would rule over them. I Sam. 8:18-22, "And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the Lord will not hear you in that day. Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles." This reminds us of some professed followers of Christ today, attempting to follow Him, yet striving to be like the world, looking to secular Government to solve all their problems rather than trusting God. "And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he rehearsed them in the ears of the Lord. And the Lord said to Samuel, Harken unto their voice, and make them a king." God did not at that time forsake His people Israel, but still recognized them in their earthly kingdom, (a kingdom of flesh) among the kingdoms of this world. God had not yet set up His Spiritual kingdom, "which shall never be destroyed." Dan. 2:44.

Let us now follow the kingdom of Israel, through the time of their reign on the earth, until they lost it and were carried away into Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom. Note: Israel's first earthly

king, Saul. God revealed to Samuel, Saul's coming and his appointment to the kingdom, or kingship, and also his "anointing," I Sam. 9:15-17; I Sam. 10:1.

"And when Samuel saw Saul, the Lord said unto him, Behold the man whom I spake to thee of! This same shall reign over my people." Nevertheless Samuel did not yet tell Saul the matter of the kingdom.

While God allowed His people to become an earthly kingdom and have a king, yet it seems it was not His will, from the following verses, I Sam. 10:17-19, "And Samuel called the people together unto the Lord to Mizpeh; And said unto the children of Israel, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms, and of them that oppressed you: And ye have this day rejected your God, who himself saved you out of all your adversaries and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, but set a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before the Lord by your tribes, and by your thousands." We do not wonder that God did not want His people to have an earthly, fleshly kingdom, for we hear Christ, who is the son of God, saying that His kingdom, the "kingdom of heaven," is "not of this world." John 18:36. Nevertheless, we find that God preserved and led His earthly people, when they would obey Him, until such a time, that He would set up His spiritual everlasting kingdom for all those who would accept it.

Samuel then tells Saul the "manner of the kingdom," and after he is confirmed they renew the kingdom. I Sam. 11:12-15; This, Samuel, "wrote it into a book and laid it up before the Lord." Hence Saul was "... made king before the Lord in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the Lord; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly."

Saul entered into kingship, I Sam. 14:47, but it wasn't long until God rent the kingdom from him, I Sam. 15:28; 28:16-17, and gave it to David. II Sam. 3:9-10, "So do God to Abner, and more also, except, as the Lord hath sworn to David, even so I do to him; To translate the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beersheba."

In our next article we will discuss the kingdom in the house of David, until the time the kingdom was divided.

Brother William Root

OBITUARIES

EMMA J. SAUERWEIN

Sister Emma J. Sauerwein, 79, formerly of R. 2, Littlestown, Pennsylvania, departed this life, Saturday, October 6, 1979, at the Golden Age Nursing Home, Hanover, Pennsylvania, following an extended illness.

She was the daughter of the late Filmore S. and Alice Harner Bowers and the widow of Bro. Jesse A. Sauerwein, who preceded her in death, December, 1959.

Born in Carroll County, Maryland, she was a charter member of the Walnut Grove Dunkard Brethren Church and showed a constant interest in the church.

She is survived by: children — Sis. Glenn W. (Dottie) Pifer of R. 2, York Springs; Sis. Ruthanna G. Sauerwein of Green Acres, R. 6, Gettysburg; Sis. Emmert O. (Betty) Shelly of R. 2, Littlestown and Jesse J. Sauerwein of 4406 Teeter Road, Taneytown; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; brother, Walter Bowers, Manchester, Maryland; sisters, Mrs. Minnie Lockner of R. 1, Abbottstown and Mrs. Ruth Wantz of R. 2, New Oxford.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, October 8, 1979, at 2 p.m. from the Littles' Funeral Home, Littlestown, with Brethren Howard J. Surbey and Fred O. Pifer officiating. Her body was laid to rest in the Mummert's Meetinghouse Cemetery, Abbottstown, Pennsylvania.

God sees when the footsteps all falter
When the pathway has grown too steep;
Then He touches the weary eyelids
And gives His dear ones sleep.

"Rest the tired feet now forever;
Dear wrinkled hands are so still.
Blast of the earth shall no longer
Throw o'er our loved one a chill.

Angels through Heaven will guide her;
Jesus will still bless and keep
Not for the world would we wake her,
Mother has fallen asleep."

Beautiful rest for the weary,
Well, deserved rest for the true,
When our life's journey is ended
We shall again be with you.

We wish to thank you for the prayers offered, for the lovely cards sent to our Mother during her illness and for the prayers, sympathy cards, and acts of kindness shown to us after her death. Your thoughtfulness was deeply appreciated. May God bless each of you.

The Family

MINNIE CLAPPER

Sis. Minnie Clapper was born July 27, 1891, to Jacob B. and Mary (Weis) Flory near Jewell, Ohio, and passed away on October 7, 1979, at the age of 88 years, 2 months and 10 days.

In early youth she surrendered her heart to the Lord Jesus and was baptized and became a member of the Poplar Ridge German Baptist Church. In 1926 she and her husband became charter members of the Pleasant Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church near West Unity, Ohio.

On June 3, 1917, she was united in Holy Matrimony to Emery A. Clapper of Bryan, Ohio. They spent the remainder of their lives in or near Bryan, Ohio. Her husband, Emery, preceded her in death on September 7, 1961; also, a daughter, Velma Ruth, died at 3 months of age.

Surviving are three daughters; Mrs. Stanley (Mary Ann) Martin, Pioneer, Ohio; Mrs. Sylvan (Olive June) Jodray, Lima, Ohio, and Miss Donnabell Clapper at home; seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; one sister, Stella Rupp, Pioneer, Ohio, and one brother, Henry Flory, Defiance, Ohio. One brother, Edward Flory, passed away in 1957.

She is gone but not forgotten —
All her tasks on earth are done —
Hard she worked toward each endeavor
Till His great reward was won.

See, she sleeps in peaceful comfort
And her loved ones shed a tear.
Gather, closer, gather closer,
She has nothing now to fear.

For she rests; she rests in comfort,
She has only gone to sleep.
We who loved her linger near her,
But we do not need to weep.

The funeral services were conducted at the Greenisen and Tilton Funeral Home at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 10, 1979 by Elder Harley Flory, assisted by Bro. Dennis St. John and Elder Dean St. John. Interment was in Fountain Grove Cemetery, Bryan, Ohio.

MARRIAGE

PHAM - WEAVER

Miss Kim Lien Pham, Pottsville, Pennsylvania and Bro. Wayne Weaver, son of Bro. and Sis. Albert Weaver, R. 1, Bernville, Pennsylvania were united in marriage June 30, 1979 in St. Patrick's Church, Pottsville, Pennsylvania by Monsignor John Boyle. The couple's present address is R. 1, Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania 17961.

NEWS ITEMS

NOTICE

The teachers who are using the Sunday School booklet prepared by the Bible Study Board should plan to continue using the "Old Testament Stories" booklet during the first quarter of 1980. At that time a new booklet containing "New Testament Stories" will be available.

Bible Study Board

NOTICE

The Editor wishes to remind those who send in material, whether original or selected, to be sure to attach their names. Material sent in anonymously will not be printed.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JANUARY

- Jan. 6 — The Preaching of John the Baptist - Luke 3:1-14.
Jan. 13 — The Baptism and Lineage of Jesus - Luke 3:15-38.
Jan. 20 — Satan Tempts Jesus - Luke 4:1-13.
Jan. 27 — Jesus Preaches in Nazareth - Luke 4:14-32.

QUESTIONS:

- (1) What did John preach in all the country about Jordan? Luke 3:3.
- (2) What did John say unto the soldiers when they asked him, "And what shall we do?" Luke 3:14.
- (3) What did John say that Jesus would baptize with? Luke 3:16.
- (4) What great witness happened at Jesus' baptism to prove to the people that He was the Son of God? Luke 3:22.
- (5) How long a time was Jesus tempted in the wilderness by Satan? Luke 4:2.
- (6) What did Satan want Jesus to do more than anything else? Luke 4:6-7.
- (7) Where did Jesus go after He was tempted of the devil? Luke 4:14-16.
- (8) From what book did Jesus read in the synagogue of Nazareth? Luke 4:17-18.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JANUARY, 1980

DELIVERANCE

Memory Verse: Phil. 3:13, 14

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Tues. 1 - Phil. 3:1-21

Wed. 2 - Jer. 22:1-19

Thur. 3 - Jer. 22:20-30

Fri. 4 - Jer. 24:1-10

Sat. 5 - Jer. 29:1-19

Memory Verse: Jer. 39:18

For I will surely deliver thee, and thou shalt not fall by the sword, but thy life shall be for a prey unto thee: because thou hast put thy trust in me, saith the Lord.

Sun. 6 - Jer. 29:20-32

Mon. 7 - Jer. 32:1-25

Tues. 8 - Jer. 32:26-44

Wed. 9 - Jer. 34:1-22

Thur. 10 - Jer. 37:1-21

Fri. 11 - Jer. 38:1-28

Sat. 12 - Jer. 39:1-18

Memory Verse: Eze. 3:21

Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

Sun. 13 - Jer. 42:1-22

Mon. 14 - Jer. 43:1-13

Tues. 15 - Jer. 46:1-28

Wed. 16 - Jer. 51:1-19

Thur. 17 - Jer. 51:20-40

Fri. 18 - Jer. 51:41-64

Sat. 19 - Lam. 1:1-22

Memory Verse: Eze. 7:19

They shall cast their silver in the streets, and their gold shall be removed: their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver

them in the day of the wrath of the Lord: they shall not satisfy their souls, neither fill their bowels: because it is the stumbling block of their iniquity.

Sun. 20 - Lam. 5:1-22

Mon. 21 - Eze. 3:1-27

Tues. 22 - Eze. 7:1-27

Wed. 23 - Eze. 11:1-25

Thur. 24 - Eze. 13:1-23

Fri. 25 - Eze. 14:1-23

Sat. 26 - Eze. 17:1-24

Memory Verse: Eze. 14:20

Though Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord God, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness.

Sun. 27 - Eze. 21:1-17

Mon. 28 - Eze. 21:18-32

Tues. 29 - Eze. 25:1-17

Wed. 30 - Eze. 31:1-18

Thur. 31 - Eze. 33:1-33

Memory Verses: Eze. 33:4, 5

Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him, But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul.

Eze. 33:12

Therefore, thou son of man, say unto the children of thy people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression: as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall thereby in the day, that he turneth from his wickedness; neither shall the righteous be able to live for his righteousness in the day that he sinneth.